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TRANSATLANTIC BUSINESS.

THE Publisher desires to inform manufacturers and wholesalers that the issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for May 25 will be specially circulated to transatlantic buyers. Canada, the United States, and the West Indies will be thus covered, and, as export business in chemicals, medicines, and similar products with these countries is on the increase, the circulation of May 25 will be a good chance for improving the business of those who advertise in it.

Summary.

MR. JESSE BOOT has now the supreme control of 250 chemists' shops (p. 656).

WE PRINT SOME NOTES in reference to Cape drugs, including Cape aloës (p. 643).

MR. A. BOTTLE, of Dover, provides the portrait in Pharmaceutical Fauna this week (p. 644).

A CHEMIST who acted as a census enumerator tells us what he had to do and how he liked it (p. 622).

THERE is a chemist's assistant who calls himself T. C. Smith or T. Cherry, who is wanted (p. 663).

THE NAMES of those who have passed the Irish Pharmaceutical Examinations this month are printed on p. 618.

A CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST who took thirty years to pass the Minor examination writes about the matter (p. 623).

A GLASGOW PHARMACIST contributes experience of the effect of the small pox epidemic in the local drug-trade p. 621.

A MEETING OF CHEMISTS was held at Bristol on Wednesday evening, when the Pharmacy Bill was approved of (p. 652).

THE SALE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC POISONS is causing some disturbance in photographic circles. The subject is discussed on p. 646.

MR. JAMES MACKENZIE wants more grit in the administration of the Pharmaceutical Society. So we gather from his letter on p. 662.

COLONEL GEORGE FLEMING, F.R.C.V.S., who for some years was at the head of the army veterinary department, is dead (p. 653).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY is prosecuting two chemist-assistants at Linlithgow for infringement of the Pharmacy Act (p. 654).

THE NAMES of those who passed the Major and Minor examinations in Edinburgh this month are given in p. 622, and a Minor man tells what he got there.

As this is a Colonial issue we have included in the contents an illustrated account of some of the leading Australian drug-houses. It begins on p. 631.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE CEYLON BOTANIC GARDENS in his annual report for 1903 gives a doleful account of the citronella-oil industry in that island (p. 637).

THE AERATED-WATER TRADE has been the subject of "Our Town Traveller's" inquiries during the past month. The results are printed in a report beginning on p. 626.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC TRADE ASSOCIATION are raising a guarantee fund for the defence of any member who shall be prosecuted for breach of the Kodak agreement (p. 651).

A WELL INFORMED CORRESPONDENT gives particulars as to druggists' supplies for South Africa, which manufacturers and wholesalers would do well to note (p. 612).

A TRANSVAAL CHEMIST sends us interesting particulars of the condition of Pretoria to day, in contrast with what it was when he was registered as a chemist there (p. 620).

THE PRODUCTION OF PERU BALSAM is fully described and illustrated in an article on p. 638. It is the result of recent exploration by the German colonial authorities.

MR. JAMES PATERSON points out some flaws in the wording of Clauses 2 and 7 of the Pharmacy Bill, which indicate that the directorate principle is not sufficiently specified (p. 632).

THE REPORT of the Registrar General for England and Wales for 1899 shows a continued great fatality from unscheduled poisons. An analysis of the statistics is given on p. 648.

WE have made some inquiries in regard to the most popular pill, and find that Blaud's pills are an easy first. The annual consumption in the British Isles appears to be 64 tons, or 263 million pills (p. 647).

GLASGOW DOCTORS have agreed upon a memorial to the General Medical Council, asking for reconsideration of their resolution in reference to the employment by medical practitioners who keep open shop of unqualified assistants to sell drugs and poisons (p. 618).

THE tone on the drug and chemical markets has not sensibly improved and values generally, with few fluctuations, tend downwards. Menthol, thymol, and cod-liver oil are lower, while American oil of peppermint has distinctly improved. Quinine has slightly rallied owing to a good demand at the bark sale. Opium is dearer (p. 636).

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Mr. J. Baynes, F.I.C., has been appointed public analyst for the borough of Louth.

At Easthorne on April 12, Charles Timberlake was fined 1*l.* including costs for storing carbide of calcium without a licence.

Phillip Adams and Thomas Fenton have been sent to gaol for three months for stealing 90 lbs. of lead from the West Ham Chemical-works, Canning Road, West Ham.

At West Bromwich on April 15, Edward Whitehouse was fined 2*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*, including costs, for selling sweet spirit of nitre which was certified as absolutely devoid of ethyl nitrite, and to contain 40·7 per cent. of added water.

At Henley-in-Arden Police Court on April 10, William Washington Richards, jun., drug-vendor, Ullenhall, was fined 10*s.*, including costs, for selling camphorated oil which was certified to be 22 per cent. deficient in camphor.

At the Middlesex Sessions on April 13 Patrick Fitzgerald, an old offender, was sentenced to five years' penal servitude for stealing a clock and twenty-five bottles of scnt, valued at 10*l.*, from the warehouse of Messrs. A. & F. Pears (Limited), at Hounslow.

On and after May 1 Messrs. C. T. Weary, F. J. Ryall, W. C. Retallack, S. E. M. Venn, J. W. B. Swainson, and W. H. Austin, all chemists in business in Stoke and Devonport, have agreed to close their pharmacies at from 1 or 2 P.M. each Wednesday for the day.

James Arthur Barnett, an errand-boy formerly in the employ of Mr. Clement Gray, chemist and druggist, 10 Grantham Road, Brighton, pleaded guilty to stealing 14*s.* from his employer's till, and was ordered to receive twelve strokes with the birch rod by the Brighton Bench on April 11.

At the Blackburn Board of Guardians on April 13 a discussion took place in regard to the appointment of a dentist for the hundred children at the Cottage Homes. There was only one candidate for the appointment, who had attended by request, but the matter was adjourned for a month.

Early on the morning of April 13 as a horse and trap were being driven along Silver Street, Bedford, the horse took fright and dashed into the shop-front of Messrs. Boots (Limited). The window was smashed, and its contents considerably scattered, while the horse escaped uninjured.

At an inquest held at Stoke Newington on April 16, into the circumstances of the deaths of a commission agent, named Adams, and his wife, evidence was given by Mr. Henry Vincent Dodd, chemist and druggist, of St. Andrew's Pavement, Stoke Newington, who was a friend of the deceased man.

On April 16, at Exmouth, a drunken Norwegian sailor fell against the shop-window of Messrs. Holman, Ham & Co., chemists and druggists, and broke two panes of glass. He was charged at the Police Court with being drunk and incapable, and was fined 2*s.* 6*d.*, and 2*s.* 6*d.* costs, and also ordered to pay 1*s.* 6*d.* damages.

John Lyle, of Altringham, died after taking a decoction of herbs which Mrs. Worthington, an herb-dealer, had supplied him with to cure his lumbago. The herbs caused sickness, and Dr. Ransome at the inquest said the syncope from which the man died was due to the sickness. The jury found death to be from natural causes, but the Coroner admonished Mrs. Worthington.

The King's Patronage.

The King has consented to become Patron of the City and Guilds of London Institute, of which as Prince of Wales he has been President since 1881.

His Majesty, as Prince of Wales, has been President of the Society of Arts since 1863, and has now consented to

become its Patron. The Society will also continue to use the King's profile on its medals.

The Spectacle-makers' Examination.

The May examinations under the scheme for certifying opticians of the Spectacle-makers' Company is to be held at St. Bride's Institute, Ludgate Circus, E.C., on May 15 to 17. Sir William Hart-Dyke, M.P., master of the company, will address the candidates before the examination commences. The last day for receiving applications from candidates for examination is May 1.

Spectacles for Scholars.

Chemist-opticians in Northwich have the chance of a good order. Sir John T. Brunner, Bart., M.P., proposes to provide spectacles for scholars who are afflicted with squint. The offer is made to all Board schools and Voluntary schools in the Northwich parliamentary division.

Lady Dispensers.

Miss A. E. Coste was the successful candidate at the recent election of dispenser by the Camberwell Board of Guardians.

On April 12 the Wolverhampton Guardians appointed a dispenser for the union. The six selected candidates were:—Mr. J. A. Caswell, Wolverhampton; Mr. A. G. Glasspool, Hale-sowen; Mr. F. G. Griffiths, Wolverhampton; Mr. W. Westhead, Stafford; Miss G. J. Rennie, Birmingham; and Miss H. Robinson, Tipton. All the candidates had passed the Minor examination, and, in two instances, the examination of the Apothecaries' Society as well. In the first round of voting Miss Rennie, Mr. Glasspool, and Mr. Caswell were knocked out, Miss Robinson receiving ten votes, Mr. Westhead nine, and Mr. Griffiths six. In the second round Miss Robinson received thirteen votes, Mr. Westhead nine, and Mr. Griffiths five. In the final round Miss Robinson was elected by fourteen votes to thirteen given for Mr. Westhead. The successful candidate has been assistant-dispenser at the Birmingham General Hospital. She was also for two years dispenser to Messrs. Pearce & Taylor, union medical officers, Brierley Hill. She is at present engaged at a pharmacy at Oxford. The salary connected with the position is 130*s.* per annum. During the contest a Guardian declared: "I don't believe in women for a job of this kind."

The Analyst's Salary Increased.

At a meeting of the Somershire County Council on April 10, the Finance Committee recommended that the salary of the public analyst (Dr. Alford) should be increased from 150*l.* to 200*l.* per annum. It was stated that Dr. Alford had served as public analyst for nearly twenty years, during which time he had analysed rather more than 1,000 samples a year. Out of his salary he had provided all laboratory and office expenses. The average value of analyses was 7*s.* 6*d.*, but he had only been paid at the rate of 3*s.* Mr. Strachey, M.P., opposed the recommendation, but it was adopted by 44 votes to 11.

Stealing from Chemists.

During the early hours of April 9 burglars entered the pharmacy of Mr. J. E. Lee, chemist and druggist, Broad Street, Teddington. The intruders conveyed the till from the shop to the dining-room, where they left it empty after extracting 25*s.* in cash. They also ransacked several drawers, and left behind an old pair of boots in exchange for a better pair which they found in the shop.

On April 15, James Kelley (47), a scissors-grinder, was charged with stealing a box containing a dozen dressing-combs, value 5*s.*, from the counter in the shop of Mr. Frederick Cowdry, chemist, 4 The Parade, Northampton; and was also charged with stealing another comb, value 1*s.* After evidence had been taken, prisoner was sentenced to a month's imprisonment on the first charge, and the second charge was dismissed.

The lock-up shop of Mr. S. Phillips, pharmaceutical chemist, at 90 Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton, was broken into on Sunday afternoon, April 14. The thieves had gained an entrance by means of a fanlight at the rear of the premises, a pair of steps which were in the back yard having

been utilised for the purpose of scaling the wall. A desk, in which was a considerable sum of money—how much is not known precisely—had been forced open, and the contents were abstracted.

Fires.

In a fire which occurred in a lofty building at 71 Eastcheap, E.C., on April 16, the premises of the Tower Tea Company (Limited) were involved.

A serious fire broke out on April 11 at Crew's Hole, St. George, Bristol, on the premises of Messrs. William Butler & Sons, tar-distillers. The premises were at the time of the outbreak stocked with some 35,000 gals. of creosote, and the creosote-shed and contents were completely destroyed. After about three hours' hard work the brigade managed to get the flames under. With regard to the cause of the fire, it is stated that two of Messrs. Butler's workmen were engaged in fitting a new cock to a new boiler in the carbolic-shed. This was connected with the carbolic-washer, and a light which one of the men carried caused an explosion. Neither of the men were injured. The damage is estimated at about 1,000.

Chemists and Church Affairs.

Mr. R. J. Watson, chemist, Caistor, has been elected people's warden for Caistor Parish Church.

At the Wingate Parish Church vestry-meeting on April 15, Mr. J. T. Cross was re-elected vicar's warden.

Mr. F. W. Stedman, chemist and druggist, High Street, Ashford (Kent), has been re-elected a sidesman of the parish church.

Mr. Harry R. Smith, of the firm of Smith & Cheney, chemists, Dursley, has been elected people's warden of Dursley Parish Church.

Mr. Charles Winter, chemist, Caistor, who has been vicar's warden for eighteen consecutive years at the parish church, has resigned the office.

Mr. Edward Machon, chemist and druggist, 51 Park Street, Derby, has been re-elected parish warden of Christ Church, Derby, this being his fourth year of office.

Mr. J. R. Philpotts, chemist, Newnham-on-Severn, has been re-elected a sidesman of the parish church, an office he has held for many years.

Mr. G. U. Spratt, chemist, manager for Boots Cash Chemists (Eastern) (Limited), at their London Road branch, Nottingham, has been re-appointed vicar's warden for St. Philips, Nottingham, for the fourth time.

The Supply of Workhouse Drugs.

At a meeting of East Preston (Sussex) Board of Guardians on April 10, Dr. C. A. Lapthorne, the workhouse medical officer, suggested that the Board should provide all medicines and drugs. The Board declined to accept the responsibility of providing the drugs, but decided to allow the medical officer 15/- extra for supplying ordinary medicines and drugs, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board.

The Cannock Board of Guardians, having asked for permission to increase the salary of the workhouse medical Officer from 65/- per annum, the Local Government Board has recommended that the salary should be increased to 100/- only, and that the Guardians should provide the drugs through the local chemists. The Guardians on April 12 decided to sanction the Board's request for two years pending the erection of a new infirmary, when the question of providing a dispensary will be considered.

Notes from the Midlands.

Messrs. Cadbury Brothers, of cocoa fame, have forwarded to the Lord Mayor of Birmingham 250 guineas as a contribution to the Mansion House Fund for the erection of a memorial to Queen Victoria.

Birmingham cannot feel proud of the following headings in its local police news of last Friday:—"Salt in Beer, 105 gr. per gal."; "Boric Acid in Butter, 63 gr. per lb. and an excess of 6 per cent. of water"; "Selling Watered Milk 28 per cent. more than the natural quantity, and deficient of

31 per cent. of natural fat"; and "Chicory in Coffee 65 per cent." Heavy fines were imposed in all cases.

The Consultative Institute has advertised for both a consulting physician and a consulting surgeon, each with a stipend of 50/- per annum. Our local *Mail* has interviewed the chiefs of the opposite camps, and the situation runs thus: Dr. Irvine leaves on April 21, and Dr. Soundby thinks no applicant will put in an appearance. Mr. Arthur Chamberlain is quite sure they are on the right lines, and their ultimate success of running the Institute on the Workman's Committee plans is assured. It will be a boon to the pharmaceutical world.

A well-known Birmingham medical practitioner has been prescribing largely tinct. coscinii, and many inquiries have been made concerning the same. In the *materia medica* books the drug (*Coscinium fencistratum*, N.O. *Menispermaceæ*) will be found mentioned under the head of "Adulterants of calumba." The root contains constituents not unlike calumba. It is imported from Ceylon as calumba-wood. The tincture and infusion are prepared in the same way and of the same strength as calumba, and the dose of each is the same, but one wonders what special merit coscinium possesses over calumba.

Professor J. B. Harrison, the Government Analyst, British Guiana, and Consulting Chemist to the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies, lectured to the members of the Birmingham Municipal Technical School Chemical Society, on April 17, on "The Industries of British Guiana, with Special Reference to the Determination of Sugar." He expressed the hope that the chemist and scientist might rescue the sugar industry from its perilous position. Time was when the belief prevailed that the sugar-cane did not produce seed, and that the only method of growing was by cutting. That was the belief of the botanist, but the chemist, by experiment, produced seed, and it was the desire of himself and his colleagues to improve the sugar-cane, and get a greater yield of sugar.

A University for Liverpool.

This question has for some time agitated educational circles, writes a Liverpool correspondent, the particular Liverpool daily which makes for "culture" having had its correspondence columns filled for the last two months with letters on the subject. The question would appear to have now entered upon an official stage, for at a special meeting of the Council of University College held on April 15, Lord Derby, K.G., in the chair, the question of converting University College into Liverpool University having been submitted and discussed, it was resolved:—

That, while gratefully acknowledging the advantages which have accrued to University College, Liverpool, by its association with Victoria University, this Council is of opinion that a university should be established in the city of Liverpool; that this Council will welcome a scheme with this object upon an adequate basis; and that a committee be appointed to consider and report upon the whole question, with power to make inquiries and to communicate with other bodies.

It was likewise agreed that the committee consist of all the Council members, with any others whom the Council may think fit to ask to associate with them.

The Week's Poisonings.

Since our last issue fourteen poisoning fatalities and six attempts at suicide by poisons have been reported. The solitary unscheduled poison which was used with fatal results was ammonia, but hydrochloric acid, iodine, and a mixture of paraffin oil and sulphur were used in unsuccessful endeavours to induce death. In the other three unsuccessful cases laudanum, chloroform, and carbolic acid respectively were tried. Six of the thirteen fatalities from scheduled poison were due to laudanum, three were caused by oxalic acid, two by carbolic acid, one by vermin-killer, and another by an inadvertent dose of strychnine and quinine, which a Croydon woman put in the feeding-bottle of her three-weeks' old child in mistake for lime-water. A Manchester woman obtained an ounce of oxalic acid from Mr. J. A. Gilbert, chemist and druggist, 234 Oldham Road, for cleaning brass. Mr. Gilbert was closely questioned concerning the sale by the Coroner at the inquest, but was able to satisfy him that he had carried out all the requirements of the Pharmacy

Act. A Maryport mother put "a few drops" of laudanum in her seven-month-old child's milk "to ease its pain," and the poor thing went off into its last sleep. Francis Henry Higgs, a Birmingham clerk, who was in the last stages of consumption, accelerated death by poisoning himself with laudanum and methylated spirit. The laudanum formed part of a diarrhoea-mixture, which deceased had made up from an old recipe, and the methylated spirit which he drank was prescribed for external treatment. The Winchester maid-servant, Frances Merrett, who put rat-poison in the teapot and nearly poisoned the whole of her employer's household, appeared at the Hampshire Quarter Sessions on April 10, and as the prosecutor did not press the charge, she was bound over.

Conferring with the Grocers.

Mr. James Young, Hon. Secretary of the Torquay Chemists' Association, wrote to the Torquay Grocers' Association, suggesting the fixing of a minimum retail price on certain proprietary and other articles. The letter was discussed at a meeting of the Grocers' Association on April 16, when the President (Mr. John Dendle) commended the action of the chemists in forming an association for trade purposes, but reminded them that neither the Chemists' nor the Grocers' Association was formed for the purpose of fixing prices. Some of the articles in the list sent by Mr. Young did not bear a fair rate of profit, but if the Chemists' Association could fix a minimum price it would be a good thing. He had yet to learn, however, that they had received the approval of all the chemists in the district. Some of the articles mentioned in the list were sold at cheaper prices than he himself sold them at. Mr. Snapley, in the course of the discussion that followed, said the list was very inadequate, and needed careful revision. The President stated that certain proprietary articles had gone up 50 to 60 per cent. in cost; but what the grocers had to face were the company-shops, which were a great difficulty. Eventually it was decided to appoint a committee, to confer with a similar committee representing the Chemists' Association.

Irish News.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

The following are the results of the recent examinations:—
Pharmaceutical Licence Examination.—J. R. Wilson, T. A. Robb, J. Fleming, W. J. Mooney, J. Farrington, J. F. Young, S. Dale, A. N. Cole, W. J. Strange, F. Maxwell, R. M. Bronte, passed. Eight candidates were rejected. *Pharmaceutical Assistant Examination*.—W. A. Berry, W. Fee, H. C. Smyth, G. A. Turner, passed. Three candidates were rejected. *Registered Druggist Examination*.—J. Browne, P. J. T. Cosgrave, J. Hogg, J. A. McMichael, G. W. Walker, passed. Three candidates were rejected.

Fire.

On April 9 a fire broke out in the Henrietta Place Stores of Messrs. McMaster & Hodgson, wholesale druggists, Dublin, but was soon extinguished. The premises of Messrs. Hugh Moore, Alexander & Co., which adjoin, were at one time also in danger.

Easter Vestries.

Mr. James E. Brunker, M.P.S.I., Dublin, has been elected a member of the select Vestry of the Mageough Church, Palmerston, Rathmines.

Sir Thomas W. Robinson, L.P.S.I., has been appointed a select vestryman of the Mariners' Church, Kingstown, co. Dublin.

Mr. Isaac Davison, druggist, High Street, Portadown, has been elected a member of the select Vestry of the local parish church.

Analysing Sweet Nitre.

The Local Government Board want to know from the Newry Guardians if it is the case that a month was allowed to elapse between the receipt from the drug-contractor of a quantity of spt. aetheris nitrosi, unfavourably reported upon by the analyst, and the sending of samples of the article to the latter officer, and, if so, who is responsible for the delay.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Personal.

Mr. Walter Stavers, chemist and druggist, Selkirk, has been elected a Bailie of the burgh.

Mr. Charles B. Allen, Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society, attended in that capacity the meeting of the Board of Examiners in Edinburgh last week.

Mr. Peter Boa, Dr. Leonard Dobbin, and Mr. J. Rutherford Hill (Assistant Secretary) are in London this week as a deputation from the Edinburgh Board of Examiners to see how the examinations are conducted by the London Board.

Wine-licence.

The local Magistrates have granted Mr. J. J. Corstorphine (for the Scottish Drug Dépôt) a grocer's licence (wine only) for premises in Dalkeith.

The Kinninmont Prize.

Intending competitors are reminded that April 30 is the last date upon which names can be received for this competition. These should be sent to the Secretary, Mr. William L. Currie, 223 Byres Road, Dowanhill, Glasgow, from whom all particulars can be obtained.

A Fatal Mistake.

On April 15 a young woman named McRae, living in Glasgow, drank in mistake a quantity of salt of sorrel in solution which she had been using for domestic purposes. She was found lying unconscious on the floor; and died before medical assistance could be procured.

A Chemist's Memorial.

At a public meeting held in the Town Hall, Inverurie, last week, it was unanimously resolved to erect by public subscription a memorial-stone to the late Mr. James Munro, chemist, in testimony of the high character and lovable qualities which had endeared him to his townsmen.

Edinburgh Chemists' Golf-club.

The spring-holiday competition of this club took place over the Luffness private course on April 15, with the following results:—Captain's Prize and Gibson Handicap Medal: Mr. George Lunan, 115-10-105; 2nd prize, Mr. James Stott, 107, scratch; 3rd prize, Mr. A. J. Dey, 133-25-108. A strong wind accounted for the high scores. Sixteen members were present.

Medical Practitioners and the General Medical Council.

A meeting of medical practitioners was held in Glasgow on Wednesday, April 17, under the auspices of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Branch of the British Medical Association, the Glasgow Eastern Medical Society, and the Glasgow Southern Medical Society, to consider the report of the committee appointed at the meeting on January 23 regarding the action of the General Medical Council as to the sale of drugs and poisons by unregistered chemists' assistants. The meeting, which was attended by under fifty gentlemen, was presided over by Dr. Wm. Watson, Glasgow. The report took the form of a memorial to the General Medical Council, and the Chairman, in submitting it, stated that it had been drawn up after much thought and consultation with legal gentlemen. It was an exceedingly lengthy document, of which the following is an abstract:—

The memorialists claim that the Scotch triple medical diploma qualifies them to sell drugs and poisons, including the poisons scheduled under the Pharmacy Acts, and that the liberty of selling drugs and poisons (except scheduled poisons) belongs to every British subject, the rights and privileges of medical practitioners being expressly reserved by Parliament. They express surprise regarding the Council's resolution to the effect that a registered medical practitioner was guilty of "infamous conduct in a professional respect" by employing unqualified assistants to sell drugs

and poisons, and point out that a general impression has gone abroad that the only evidence against the practitioner was in support of this charge. This view of the matter being publicly stated and commented upon in trade journals, such as the *Pharmaceutical Journal* of December 8, 1900, and THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of the same date; and no secret is made of the meaning of such a judgment—viz., altogether to deprive medical practitioners of the right to sell drugs and poisons. In the view of the memorialists this is an illegal and unwarrantable interference with their rights. They proceed to show that under Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act the offender is the actual salesman, this being the interpretation of the highest English and Scotch Courts, and they assert that the judgment of the General Medical Council amounts to a reversal of these decisions, because it makes the owner of the shop liable for offences under the Act, and not only imposes a penalty upon persons not struck at by Section 15 of the Act, but also imposes an entirely new penalty—viz., deprivation. To subject registered medical practitioners to the risk of being struck off the register because a salesman of theirs sells drugs or poisons is unauthorised by any Act of Parliament, and is an unconstitutional assumption of statutory authority on the part of the General Medical Council. The memorialists are not concerned to defend any medical practitioner who authorises his assistants to sell scheduled poisons. They recognise that as the law stands the utmost care should be taken to prevent such sales by anyone not duly authorised. They state further that it is impossible to teach the business of dispensing without employing unqualified assistants, and the memorialists cannot conceive that what is permissible on the part of a pharmaceutical chemist can be "infamous conduct in a professional respect" on the part of a medical practitioner. They conclude that infamous conduct must consist of some overt act, not any omission, and submit that the matter should be re-considered.

Dr. Lindsay Steven seconded the motion for the adoption of the memorial, and said they need not be ashamed to take a position which was occupied by men like Smellie and Cullen in their day. The motion was unanimously adopted. It was agreed to send a deputation of eight gentlemen to support the memorial which Dr. Bruce Dingwall has agreed to present. The deputation will consist of Dr. Lindsay Steven (Glasgow), Dr. Wm. Russell (Paisley), Dr. C. E. Robertson (Crosshill, Glasgow), Dr. David Young (Parkhead, Glasgow), Dr. Watson (Langside), Dr. Stewart (Crosshill), Dr. John H. Nicol, and Dr. J. Frazer Orr. Some discussion took place as to the manner in which the expenses of the meetings, the deputation, and the opposition to the Pharmacy Bill were to be defrayed, in the course of which it was stated that the three Societies under which the meetings had been convened had guaranteed 10*l.* each, but the expenses would likely come to 70*l.* or 80*l.* A motion was made that in the meantime 2*s.* 6*d.* should be levied from all those who had signed the memorial, but it was ultimately agreed to remit this matter to the committee. The Chairman intimated that the committee would be kept in existence for the purpose of opposing the Pharmacy Bill.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

CONGRESS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.—The Congress of the International Association of Learned Societies was opened in Paris on April 16. The President is M. Darboux, the permanent secretary of the Paris Academy of Sciences. Eighteen scientific bodies in various countries are represented by delegates, those of Great Britain being Professor H. E. Armstrong, Professor A. R. Forsyth, Sir Michael Foster, Sir A. Geikie, Professor E. R. Lankester, Sir N. Lockyer, Professor A. W. Rücker, and Professor A. Schuster. The Association has been in existence about fifteen months, and is founded for the purpose of international co-operation and agreement on scientific problems. The universal academy is a realisation of a scheme of Leibnitz for uniting the different academies which are studying the same subjects. Sir Michael Foster was chosen as an honorary president. The first day's proceedings were taken up with discussions on the rules and financial aspects, but one piece of work was the appointment of a committee to consider a scheme for the mutual loan of manuscripts.

PASTEUR'S STATUE.—The sculptor M. Antonin Carles has just completed the model for the statue of Pasteur which is to be erected at Dôle, the native village of Pasteur. The

statue is of simple design, but an admirable likeness, and shows the famous chemist standing garbed in the orthodox frock-coat, a fact that has added difficulty to the artist's task. A handsome pedestal, twice the size of the statue, and decorated with allegorical figures representing "Science and Humanity," completes the monument.

M. JULLIARD.—A friend of the late M. Julliard, who died recently, sends me the following notes concerning the veteran pharmacien:—

Julliard's long career was necessarily not without interest. He was a frequent contributor to pharmaceutical journals, and contributed to the *Union Pharmaceutique*, *Le Répertoire de Pharmacie*, *Le Journal de Pharmacie et de Chimie*, and two or three others at various times. For thirty five years he was a member of the Commission d'Hygiène, and had been successively "Commissary" and afterwards "Administrator" of the Bureau de Bienfaisance from 1865 to 1882. He also occupied the post of President du Conseil de Surveillance de la Pharmacie Centrale de France. He was on September 17, 1870, nominated by the Municipality of Paris to direct the distribution of municipal supply of cooked food during the siege of Paris, and sometimes distributed as many as 3,000 rations daily. He was on February 17, 1871, delegated by the English committee (Lord Mayor's Fund) for the distribution of the aid sent from England to relieve the suffering Parisians after the signature of peace. His credentials were signed by Geo. Moore and the Hon. Henry Stuart Wortley, he told me. During the war he did all in his power to assist the ambulance of his quarter, and had the diploma of the French Cross Society (Blessés Malades de Terre et de Mer) conferred on him in July, 1871. I need not remind you of the appropriate character of the statuette, "Song Disarming Time," presented to him by his fellow pharmacists to celebrate his pharmaceutical jubilee in 1898 (reported in *C. & D.*), nor of his little work on "La Pratique Pharmaceutique," published in 1897 in collaboration with Paul Fumouze—a hand little volume of practical hints on "keeping shop" and keeping stock in a pharmacy. His poetical effusions are unobtainable in printed form so far as I can learn at present, but you will remember his speech in verse at various public functions. His wife died some time ago, a daughter only surviving him, I believe; so that the pharmacy will pass into other hands.

South African News.

(From our Colonial Correspondents.)

THE PLAGUE.—*A propos* the bubonic plague in South Africa, a Maritzburg paper states that the Natal Government is buying up all the disinfectants it can procure, and has even purchased all that are to arrive in the colony for some time.

THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' FAMINE.—Amateur photographers in Bloemfontein are finding the pursuit of their hobby just now a rather expensive business. Plates, chemicals, and other adjuncts of the art are almost unobtainable, and instances exist of amateurs paying as much as 2*s.* for a half-plate of the Ilford variety.

BUSINESS CHANGES.—Mr. Montague Thane, chemist (late manager for Mr. A. Davison, chemist) has commenced business on his own account at 123 Dutoitspan Road, Kimberley, Cape Colony.—The Manica Drug-store have opened a fine new building in the best part of Umtali, Rhodesia. The building is treble the size of the old building, and the shop has a double entrance in Main Street. It was built by Messrs. Wilkie & Hutchinson.

A WHOLE BLOCK BURNT.—A destructive fire broke out in a block of newly-erected property on the main road at Claremont, Cape Colony—a small town between Cape Town and Wynberg. The entire block, which contained five stores, amongst them the pharmacy of Mr. C. B. Collis, was completely gutted before the fire could be got under. Mr. Collis, who is a brother to Mr. A. F. Collis, chemist and druggist, Bath, is coming home shortly for a change and to buy a new outfit for his business.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Raworth, who is mentioned in another paragraph in this column as being in business at Pretoria, is a native of Somerset, and was apprenticed to Mr. Shrimpton, chemist, Wells, in February, 1870. He has been twenty-four years in the Transvaal, and has seen much military service, receiving the medal and clasp for the three wars of 1877-8-9, Gaika, Galeka, and Zulu. After the Zulu war he went

through the Sekukuni campaign under Sir Garnet Wolseley. In Colonel Gildea's command he was besieged by the Boers at Pretoria for three months in 1831, and was the only dispenser then in the British camp.

PLAGUE-DISINFECTORS.—The boom in disinfectants continues. Eight wagon-loads of the disinfectant "Omaha" were recently landed in Cape Town docks, and drawn in something like triumph through the streets prior to being put into store. Mr. Alexander Pardy, fumigation-officer, writing to the Natal Commissioner of Agriculture *re* the supply of tents for fumigation, remarks: "The chemicals and all apparatus can be procured locally; the Department supply the potassium cyanide at 2s 6d. per lb. to fumigators, sulphuric acid (commercial) ought to be purchased at the chemist's at about 14s. to 15s. per jar of 42 lbs., and the other sundries, consisting of a letter-balance and weights, measuring-glass, earthenware jug and bowls, can be purchased almost anywhere."

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.—The adjourned annual meeting of the Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society was held on January 17 at Bululwalo, when the chair was occupied by Mr. Harold W. Smart (Vice-President) in the absence from town of the President (Mr. F. L. Moore). The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Mr. Harold W. Smart; Vice-President, Mr. C. F. Corrath; Treasurer, Mr. W. J. Bickie (re-elected); Secretary, Mr. W. Dawn Copley (re-elected); Assistant-Secretary, Mr. Truscott. The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer showed the Society to be in a satisfactory condition. The Society resolved to continue THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST as its official organ. Votes of thanks to the retiring officers and to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

A BLOEMFONTEIN GRIEVANCE.—A leaderette in the *Bloemfontein Post* of March 16 draws attention to the different aspect of the various chemists' establishments in that town, some presenting a most desolate appearance of empty windows and shelves, whilst others are apparently full to repletion with all that a colonial pharmacy should hold. The reason for this is that the chemists who have obtained Government contracts are allowed to import merchandise to any amount, while their less fortunate brethren are not in a position to get up the dispensing necessities to enable them to fill medical prescriptions. As the *Post* says, permits issued to every chemist, independent of his standing, to import a certain quantity of requirements per month would remove a grievance which presses hard on the chemist as well as on the general public.

A COMMANDERING NOTE.—The following is interesting as being an exact copy of a note commandeering the articles named from the shop of Mr. Raworth, chemist, Pretoria:—

W. RAWORTH,
Family and Dispensing Chemist,
Church Street, East.

Pretoria,
P. O. Box 714. 23/10/1899.
Handed to Mr. Glæser, Hollandsche Apotheek.

1 card baby-comforters.
7 Allenbury's feeders.
4 large feeding-cups, assorted.
3 small do do
5 lbs. surgeon's lint.
200 caffen. comp. tahloids.
200 vinum. ipecac. do.
6 breast-pumps.
2 glass irrigators.

Received the above,

H. C. GLÆSER.

8 fly-papers.

Our friends, the enemy, should make excellent colonists if they only bring that knowledge to bear in their daily pursuits in the future that they have shown in the past in the details of commandeering. We have heard how they have helped themselves to horses and foodstuffs, troops of yeomanry, and a casual battalion of infantry now and then—we know now how they, like a nomadic Whiteley, could even supply the necessary soother for the baby.

PRETORIA THEN AND NOW.—A correspondent writes as follows:—"It is eight years since I was last in Pretoria.

On that occasion I went to get placed on the Transvaal register as a chemist and druggist. Wiseacres in Johannesburg had foretold that I would never succeed. I presented my British diploma and the necessary fees (5*l.*) to the Secretaris Raad van Examinateuren requesting him to return it to me per post with that of the Transvaal, which he did, and so ended this simple performance, which at that time was considered by many to be impossible unless one spoke the 'taal.' The late Mr. De Bruyn was then Registrar, a gentleman well educated and much respected. It was after his death that the fees were increased to 12*l.* 10*s.*, and the scandalous 'Bloemfontein trick' established.

"What a different Pretoria this is now. High up on the Raadzaal, instead of the Vierkleur, floats the Union Jack. Instead of impudent, greasy foreigners overrunning the Government offices and occupying all the fat billets we have now brown-faced 'Tommies' in khaki, busy as bees, which is all too delightful for words. The foreigners and British subjects who sat on the fence are now tumbling over each other in their rush to show their loyalty to the new Government. No more cringing when we wish to perform what was previously thought a wonderful feat—'approach the Boers' regarding pharmaceutical legislation. I remember at a meeting of our Society during 1895, in the Goldfields Hotel, Johannesburg, a Russian, who was supposed to possess great influence with these Doppers, came into the room late. Nearly all the members at once stood up as if he were royalty. The chemists in Pretoria, with one exception, were open during the war, and sold out all their stocks. Since March 1 this year most have been able to get up a few tons of goods from the coast, a military permit being necessary on each occasion. In the absence of the one refugee chemist for sixteen months the Boer Red Cross Society opened his store, and, making it a dépôt, carried it on during the first four months of the war. Afterwards they sold patents and sundries wholesale and retail for cash, which, needless to state, they retained. Prisoners on parole have recently offered to sell this chemist various lots of goods which he recognises as lost from his own store. When Lord Roberts entered the British closed it and sent a report on to the owner in Durban. He has no complaint of insufficient business now, and prices are about a record."

At the Counter.

A DEVONPORT ORDER.—"1*d.* of forsbel (forcible) pills, for she has not had the use of her inside for a week for a hold person."

FROM LANDPORT.—A few curiosities of literature sent by Messrs. Perfect & Co., of Landport, are interesting. For example:—"Penniworth of Dry Wittril," "Urecliptus oil," "Gungohakam," "Prussica acid ointment," "Plaster for woman's bosom to wyen a baby," "Steedman's powder to ease."

MR. SANTLEY JONES.—Mr. Santley Jones, of Swindon, sends some "originals"—e.g., "Buleaunk sun hox," "Phalestine tabloids," "2*d.* of pakenot," "Squiry of squibbs," "Luicapuices," "Lukeliptus," "Gall no pine," "Boer-powder," "Ceuch a neal," "A tin of teething-powder" (Keating's implied!), "White perciaté," and "Red pasiveative."

FROM A LIST.—A list sent by Mr. J. Sidebottom, of Church, we cull the following:—"Ragman's ointment" and "Rankin's appointment" for Rankin's ointment, "Mallated; Sherts," "Bismoke broun," "Violent powder," "Camferited whitning," "Appledill-dock," "Green Winter's ale."

STARTLING.—A Birmingham firm had an inquiry recently couched in the following terms:—

"Will you send word how much your prussic Acid is a bottle, because I shall send the boy for three small bottles, will you write back again."

Needless to say, no business resulted.

VARIETIES OF IPECACUANHA.—The spelling of ipecacuanha by the layman has been a source of mirth to the chemist from time immemorial. We give a few more varieties:—"Eppykeecuama," "Hackupackuanna," "Epquekeraner," and last, but by no means least—or shortest, "heckypeckykeckcucuana."

Glasgow and the Smallpox.

NOW that the epidemic of smallpox in the "second city of the Empire" is abating, some facts which have come within the cognizance of those who practise pharmacy may interest *C & D.* readers. In a city of doctors' shops the free vaccination offered by the civic authorities and through medical men has kept the shops busy. Guaranteed vaccine lymph was distributed free to all Glasgow doctors, and a fee of 1s 6d. paid for every successful re-vaccination. The amount of lymph required for this purpose must have been great, and as expense was no object the prices paid ranged from 6s to 18s. per dozen tubes. The fees to medical men must have run into a few thousand pounds, and for about a fortnight medical general practice was all but suspended. The doctors' shops scored heavily, particularly in the poorer districts. These shops were besieged, the fee system was abused, and the unqualified shopman became a valuable assistant to his employer, marshalling the patients in batches of half a dozen, taking down the names and addresses for the schedules, and pushing things along generally. One East-end doctor recorded a few over three hundred vaccinations in one day. Figure that out and it amounts to a tidy sum. The shopman sold the pads recommended, and a profitable extra that became to the civic fees.

For some time the drug business fell flat, but the demand for vaccination-pads soon made things better until the supply gave out. The makers of these articles showed deplorable lack of enterprise, and druggists were forced to improvise pads of sublimated gamgee to satisfy the public demand for something in the shape of a cover. The process of the vaccine-disease in the arm of the adult who has to continue at his or her work differs somewhat from that of infants. In the great majority of cases the "pock" (as Scotch people call the pustule) was a running sore on the third or fourth day, and continued so till the seventh or eighth, when it began to dry up. The slightest knock or bruise was sufficient to set the whole business going again, and there are not wanting a good number who had a painful arm for five or six weeks. Hence the demand for pads. It may be worth noting that there are not yet any pads on the market suitable for adults who have been re-vaccinated.

So far as experience goes the best and most satisfactory covering is a piece of sublimated gamgee tissue, the muslin removed on one side, with a little firwood-wool, also sublimated, on top, the whole placed next the sore, and fastened to the arm by two strips of $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch rubber-strapping, one above and another below the pustule.

It is essential that the strapping should go right round the arm, to prevent slipping, and in such a manner that by gently taking back one end of the plaster the pad could be turned up if required. This can do for any number of marks. The great difficulty lay with the public, who cannot understand anything antiseptic but carbolic oil, and will not allow the above arrangement to stick for a moment, but must tear it off at once, whereas it should remain undisturbed for three weeks, and then come away with the scab. As a result of this "tearing-off" many people have had fearful looking arms, and in a bad condition for weeks.

Dusting-powders had a vogue. Boric acid was easily first favourite—a few hundredweights must have been sold during the season; next came the usual variety of antisepsics—carbolic oil, carbolic vaseline, boric ointment, &c.

Contrary to expectation, disinfectants were in poor demand; the general feeling of protection afforded by the re-vaccination can alone account for this. The quantity sold during the bubonic plague last year was much greater. Mr. Robinson, a chemist, writing from Hull, caused a mild boom in sulphur and cream of tartar lozenges. They had been beneficial as a preventive in the Hull outbreak, so he said.

The drug-trade did not benefit much by the scare. While it lasted, doctors were too busy to attend their patients, who took the opportunity to get well again without medical assistance.

As an example of the extent of the dread of infection, take a notice in the window of a prominent draper's shop in Edinburgh—"No goods from Glasgow sold here"; and Edinburgh is supposed to be an enlightened town—at least, the N.B. Executive meet there.

A. MCK. (132/5)

Colonial and Foreign News.

THE DANISH PARLIAMENT has sanctioned the establishment of a State institution for the supply of anti-diphtheria serum to the whole of Denmark and its colonies.

AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR APPLIED CHEMISTRY is to be held in Berlin in 1903. The Board of Directors of the German Chemical Society have agreed to contribute 2,000m. to it.

GERMAN PHARMACY.—The memorial which it was decided at the Stuttgart meeting of the German Apotheker Society to draw up embodying proposals for the regulation of pharmacy has been submitted to the Diet, and has been published. The first part of the pamphlet deals with the historical and legal aspects of German pharmacy, the various possible systems are discussed, and, finally, the proposals advocated by the Society, which were accepted at the Stuttgart meeting, are given.

AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION of hygiene, naval security, and firing is to take place at Ostend during August and September under the auspices of the local authorities. There is a class devoted to the pharmaceutical arts under the presidency of M. A. Demeville. Mr. A. De Cock is the general secretary, and M. M. Duyk the assistant secretary. The offices are at 18 Rue des Tœurs Blanches, Ostend. The five classes into which the pharmaceutical section is divided are apparatus, publications, products, accessories, goods for the colonies, and advertising.

Personalities.

WE learn that the cause of Mr. W. R. Warner's death, reported last week, was pneumonia.

MR. HY. CHAS. HEATHCOTE, chemist and druggist, Winster, has been elected to the Derbyshire County Council.

MR. J. R. PHILPOTTS, chemist and druggist, Newnham-on-Severn, has been re-elected a member of the Urban District Council.

MR. R. HESKETH, who has been with the Thornton-Pickard Manufacturing Company (Limited), Altrincham, for the last eight years has been appointed secretary to the company.

MR. J. ELLIMAN is building a new drill-hall at Slough, which he will present to the local company of the Bucks Volunteers. We understand the cost will be considerably over 5,000l.

THE late Mr. A. K. Bruce, of St. Andrews, was a stepson (not nephew) of Mr. Alexander Govan, who, we may add, was one of the original members of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, and a member of the Branch Council. Mr. Govan is still to the fore.

MR. W. J. SANDERS Secretary of the Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association, has been interviewed by the *Cardiff Evening Express* on the attitude of the chemists of the country towards Lord Avebury's Shops (Early-closing) Bill. Mr. Sanders gave the interviewer a well-informed account of the unanimity with which the Bill has been received by his brother-chemists, and contrasted the present attitude of the Pharmaceutical Council with their past disdain. He ascribed the action of the two opposing London Associations "to the professional idea, which makes them consider themselves as a class apart from ordinary traders."

"THE ART OF DISPENSING" is just one of those practical aids that every pharmacist finds useful in his daily work, since it records the experience of many careful observers, and the results of many experiments."—MR. E. M. HOLMES, F.L.S.

PROFESSOR KRAEMER has determined that the alternate layers in a starch grain are due to a substance rich in colloids, but poor in crystalloids, alternating with a substance rich in crystalloids, but poor in colloids.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

PHARMACEUTICAL EXAMINATIONS.

EDINBURGH BOARD.

WE have received from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain the following list of persons who submitted themselves for examination at the April meeting of that Society's Board of Examiners in Scotland, and who were then granted certificates of competent skill and knowledge and qualification—viz., as pharmaceutical chemist:—

Ferrier, John Greig

As chemists and druggists (Minor examination):—

Aitken, William Paton	Mackie, William Dingwall
Baxter, Alexander Cooper	MacLennan, Kenneth J. Cable
Chalmers, John	Melting, John David
Cleworth, John	Millar, Alexander Hastie
Cox, William	Muir, Stephen
Cuthbert, William Stiven	Murdoch, John Gloag
Dobson, George William	Nicol, William Geddes
Don, George	Oswald, John Scath
Donaldson, Robert Muir	Oxley, Harry
Dunn, James	Park, Robert Stuart
Fellows, Hugh	Patterson, George Rae
Gemmell, Matthew	Prevell, William
Gowans, James Horual	Quarry, John
Hardy, Thomas Conyers, jun.	Reidford, William George
Harris, Myers Solomon	Robertson, Archibald
Henderson, Wm. Jas. Campbell	Robertson, Robert
Howard, Robert Wilson	Simpson, Alexander George
Hunter, Thomas	Suffolk, Ernest
Jainisch, Ellen	Walker, James Noble Davidson
Kerr, James	Walls, James Alexander
Kerr, James Wm. Luckham	White, William Carter
Low, David	White, William Gillies
McDonald, John Bayne	

A MINOR CANDIDATE'S EXPERIENCE.

FIRST DAY (APRIL 4).—*Dispensing.*—I. Send a solution of $HgCl_2$ $\frac{5}{j}$. so that $\frac{5}{j}$. with water to $Oj.$ will make 1-4,000 of $HgCl_2$.

II.

Calcii sulphid. gr. $\frac{1}{9}$

Ft. pil. Mitte tales xij. S.A. varnish.
j. t.d.s.

III.

Ammon. chlor. gr. x.
Ext. glycer. $\frac{1}{15}.$
Spt. chlorof. $\frac{1}{15}.$
Aq. ad $\frac{1}{15}.$

4tis horis. Mitte $\frac{5}{j}.$

IV. Make $\frac{5}{j}.$ liq. plumbi sub. fort.

V.

Paraff. molle ad $\frac{5}{ss}.$
Cocaine 1 per cent.

Ft. ung.

Chemistry.—I. Solution of oxalic acid to estimate. II. Sp. gr. of liquid to take. III. Solution for analysis, which I found to be potassium chloride and calcium phosphate.

SECOND DAY (April 12).—Presenting myself at 1.30 P.M. precisely, as per notice, I was first sent to Mr. Lunan for *Prescriptions*. I was given three short "scripts" to translate into Latin. After that I had to read half a dozen to him, of which three contained over-doses. After asking me about thirty doses, I was told to sit down.

My next subject was *Chemistry*, under Dr. Dobbin. I was shown As, $CuSO_4$, MnO_2 , and sulphur to recognise; then the manufacture of $CuSO_4$; action of heat on F_2SO_4 , $ZnSO_4$, $KClO_3$; purification of sulphur; preparation of oxygen, Brin's process; the sod.-manganate process; action of heat on mercury and $Hg(NO_3)_2$.

After sitting three-quarters of an hour I was sent to Mr. Fraser for *Materia Medica*, and was shown aconite-root, gentian-root, calumba-root, henbane-leaves, benzoin, asafoetida, taraxacum-root, gums acacia and tragacanth, galls, nutmegs, areca-nuts, simaruba bark, jalap, grains of paradise, stramonium-seeds, nux-vomica beans, physostigma-beans, and cannabis sativa.

Mr. Jack took me next in *Pharmacy*. He asked me to describe the preparation of spt. ammon. co. and spt. eth. nit.; also

ferri et ammon. cit.; strengths of aconitine, cocaine, and boric ointments. Levigation, elutriation, and evaporation.

Another rest of half an hour on the "funking-form," and I was told to go to Professor Bower for my last subject—*Botany*. I was given a slide to describe of an embryo of a pine; then questioned about endosperm, starch, sugar, and inulin. My next question was concerning secondary growth, and I was then shown aconite, belladonna, colchicum, *Juniperus communis*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Daphne Laureola*, rosemary, *Taxus baccata*, and questioned upon the Order *Composite*.

I then took my seat, and Mr. C. B. Allen told me I had passed, and wished me success. This ended an Englishman's experience in Edinburgh. W. (132/30.)

Taking the Census.

By A DRUGGIST WHO DID IT.

SOME two months ago I was asked by our local Registrar if I would take up a census-enumeration. I considered the matter and consented. Ours is a suburban village of some 2,000 inhabitants, and the parish was mapped out by the Registrar into halves. My half took in roughly the bulk of the village, and my colleague's half embraced all the outskirts and farmhouses, with which he was already familiar. My half was supposed to contain about 270 houses, although, in fact, they only totalled 230. I am the only chemist in the place, although grocers, provision-dealers and such like are plentiful enough. Still, although the only chemist I have plenty of leisure time, and my wife can always mind the shop for a few hours

I duly received the schedules, and on Wednesday afternoon before the Census-Sunday set out to deliver them. I had to hand one in at each house, number it consecutively, write outside the name and postal address of the occupier, and write the same in a book I carried called my "Instruction-book." Thus delivery of the schedules took three hours on Wednesday, six on Thursday, and one on Friday, when all were finished

I was a little slow in delivering the schedules—that is compared with other enumerators I have heard of—but I thought it well to be explicit with most people as to when they were to fill them up—that is, Sunday night; and when I would call for them—that is, early on Monday. Unfortunately for me, as for perhaps some 20,000 others, the weather on these three days was simply arctic and frightful, but I got through it.

On the morning of Monday, April 1, I sallied out at 8 A.M., with my "Instruction-book" open to note the numbers of the schedules as I received them, and an open bag to put them in. I returned to the shop several times during the day and attended to little matters waiting, and by 3 o'clock had collected all the papers.

As far as possible I had examined each paper when handed to me, but on looking over them at night I naturally found some twenty badly or imperfectly filled up, which I had to take out and refill next day. This occupied another hour. After this I had to arrange the schedules carefully from 1 to 230, and copy into a large book supplied to me all the items contained in each schedule—name, age, occupation, birthplace, &c.—in fact, every written item had to be copied. This was the hardest and the longest part of the whole job. It took my colleague thirty hours to do his, but I was able to do a lot of mine during quiet shop-hours, and the rest after closing-time. Then each page had to be totalled, the totals carried to another page, and the grand total of houses, schedules, males, and females given. This was safely concluded on Sunday night, and the books and schedules returned to the Registrar on Monday, April 8.

It is not a remunerative work; many of us think we are considerably underpaid, and many will not care to take it on again at the same price. Still, it was an experience to a man who had always been behind the counter, and I may safely say I knocked at more doors on that Monday than I had done in the previous thirty years. I derived a deal of pleasure in the intercourse I had with my customers in their own homes. I was only once treated rudely, and generally got a lot of fun poked at me in my new capacity. I would like the job again. My work was done so well that the Registrar highly complimented me. I am now waiting for my remuneration, which is about two guineas.

"BAXTER." (131/38)

Thirty Years Passing the Minor.

An Autobiography.

I WAS apprenticed in a Sussex watering-place in the year 1870. My friends being poor, I paid no premium, being what is called an "errand-boy apprentice." A sub-post office was attached to the shop, and I became an expert in letter-carrying, and savings-bank and postal-order business. At the end of my three years I took a situation in Berkshire at 20*l.* per annum, indorse. My new master was, however, somewhat surprised to find that I did not know how to cut up demy into 4-oz. paper, neither could I recognise allspice fruit. My friend had given me Attfield's "Chemistry," Bentley's "Botany," and Redwood's edition of "Pereira." On looking back I do not wonder that I soon sickened of reading "Pereira" straight forward, without the least idea of what would actually be required at the examination. I also attacked Bentley and Attfield in the same way, but never did any practical work, neither do I recollect any master ever suggesting I should. After situations in Scarborough, Lowestoft, Alderhot, and Maidstone, about 1877 I decided to go up for the Minor. I looked in at the Square the night before, and did a little *materia medica* recognition. This was my first subject next morning. I believe Mr. Gale, a kindly, big-built man, examined me. I picked him out some jalap-root for scammony, and scammony-root for jalap. He looked at me and said, "Did you never see them before, Mr. ____?" "Not till last night, sir." "Well, pick me out some pale cinchona-bark and yellow." I picked elm-bark for yellow cinchona and cassia bark for pale cinchona. "Does your master buy that for yellow cinchona? If he does I am sorry for him." I did better on aloes and one or two others. Then Mr. Gale put down on his tablets certain marks, and looking at me kindly, said, "Mr. ___, I never went into a museum and I never heard a lecture before I came here and passed the Major examination, but I did not do it without taking trouble, and a good deal of trouble, too."

I went on to dispensing, and got through that all right; also botany; then upstairs for chemistry with Mr. Carteighe. I had up till then never had a test-tube in my hand, so the reader will at once know the result. I was shown a bottle of white crystals. "What is that?" "I dare of potash" "How would you prove there is iodine?" "Don't know." "Yes, you do." "No." So Mr. Carteighe turned round a bottle labelled "Amylum," and said, "Is that any help?" I brightened up, and said, "Yes; it turns blue." "Very well; let me see you test it." He put the test-tube and other things in my hands. I rushed in a lot of reagent, and got a pretty black mass. Mr. C. saw at once how matters stood, and said, with a sigh, "You men up from the country do use such a lot of reagent." Then followed four more sample-bottles, none of which I recognised. The sixth one was vermillion—sulphide of mercury. "How would you prove there is mercury?" "Don't know." The examiner looked at me, and said, "Mr. ___, we generally make allowance, the first half-dozen questions, for a candidate's nervousness; but it is quite evident you are not a nervous person. Now, putting aside the trouble it is to us examiners, do you not think it is an injury to your moral sense of fitness to come up so unprepared?" "Well, sir, we come up to see what it is like, because we often learn a great deal we do not want." "Certainly, you must learn too much or too little; it is no good your thinking to just hit the mark." Exit the candidate. I had been turned inside out as gently and fairly as it could be done.

I went up again about 1886, only to come down once more in the laboratory with Mr. Carteighe, as before. After that I had to wait until 1900 for the necessary money to take a proper course of study. Then I took two quarters—January to July—in schools in South London. Here I found my weak point in volumetric work and the arithmetic of physics. I have no turn for mathematics. Mr. Carteighe told me once in the laboratory that I was too theoretical, or, rather, trusted too much to my imagination, instead of getting a solid knowledge of facts. This was not from any want of taste for natural science, as I have given scores of lectures on such subjects as astronomy, geology, and Egyptology.

I booked myself for evening classes; but in July money

began to run short, and I retreated homewards, to economise and practise analysis with the help of the Students' Corner of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. This is a very valuable help to the student.

In November I returned to London, preparatory to the January examination, 1901. My fellow-students and teachers said if I could get through the practical I was all right for the theoretical. The practical part was on January 2. In volumetric analysis I had to estimate thiosulphate solution with solid iodine. In qualitative work I had to analyse a salt, which I found to contain calcium, chlorine, and SO₄. In dispensing I had to make some iodiform suppositories, a castor-oil emulsion, and pills with bichloride of mercury and arsenious acid; these three I managed all right, but a mouth-wash gave me a bad half-hour. It was—

Sodæ bicarb.	...	...	...	...	gr. 60
Sodæ bibor.	...	...	...	...	gr. 60
Tr. myrrh.	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Aq. ad.	...	...	...	...	3ss.

If this can be turned out presentable, I do not know how. The examiner was most kind. He unwrapped what I had made, and there was half an inch of deposited myrrh on the bottom of the bottle. He asked me what order I had followed in mixing it, and what I would do in the shop. I told him I would add a little mucilage. He asked me if there was any other tincture one had a difficulty with. I told him tr. guaiaci. The examiner gave me leave to make the mouth-wash again how I liked, so I made one bottle with mucilage and one more without. I think my error was in pouring the tincture in all at once instead of a little at a time. The theoretical part of the examination was on January 12. The first subject was Prescriptions. In translating an English prescription into Latin, I wrote "cochlearie minima" for "teaspoonful," instead of "minimum." The examiner asked me what gender "minima" was, what gender "cochlearie" was—in fact did his best to help me to see my error—but I had an impression that "minima" was neuter singular as well as plural. He found that I clearly intended to write the terms in neuter genders, and left it. This was, so far as I know, my only mistake. I mention it to emphasise the fact that no examiner has ever spoken rudely to me, that many of them have carefully helped me to do my best. I have been plucked at least four times, but always through my ignorance. I do think it will be a great advantage to divide the examination. A strong opposition to the curriculum comes from the teachers of the schools, who feel it is intended by means of it to cripple opposition to the Square schools, and therefore, until the scheme has developed, I hesitate to endorse the curriculum for that reason. I cannot blame the teachers in the various schools for pointing out to students the danger to the teachers from any curriculum scheme which may be used to cripple the said schools. This propaganda is being actively carried on at the present time, and officials of the Society would do well to make it quite plain that any scheme is really for the student's benefit only, and that no attempt is to be made to compel students to go to a particular school. I have during the last twelve months studied in four different schools. I believe them all to be quite equal to this work—a genuine case of survival of the fittest. I am not going on for the Major, simply because I cannot afford it. I am one of those whom Mr. Carteighe speaks of who come into the business without either schooling or money sufficient, but how such are to be kept out he never explains. If parents or friends knew the circumstances very much better than they do or are likely to; if masters, in taking apprentices, were likely to consider such matters; if the lads knew anything at all about it; if no one ever attempted to do what was beyond his powers in business—no doubt the world would be wiser than it is. However, I am through the Minor, and though there is not much to be proud of in taking thirty years to do it, still I am proud to know that none who recognise the story can say they ever heard me lay the blame on the examiners.

LIQUID CARBON TETRACHLORIDE, carefully scented and attractively put up, this is a ready sale as a grease-eradicator in place of the more commonly-used benzine. The advantage of the former principally consists in its safety, the inflammability of benzine constituting a public danger in the hands of the ignorant or careless.

Council Candidates.

WE would remind our subscribers, their employés, and members of their families that we opened last week a guinea postcard competition in respect to the contest for seven seats in the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Postcards must come in to us far more smartly than they are doing if the vote is to be of value. Full particulars in respect to the competition will be found on page 588 of our last issue.

OPINIONS OF CANDIDATES.

We have up to Wednesday of this week received the following further communications from candidates. Mr. Allen and Mr. Corder are at present on the Council. Mr. Martindale, another councillor, has acknowledged our letter in regard to his opinions; but we have received no acknowledgment from Messrs. Gostling, Newsholme, Pickard, and Savory. We may explain that we have taken the liberty of abbreviating the letters in all cases so as to save space and to give the opinions undecorated.

Mr. Charles B. Allen, Vice-President of the Society.

I am unable to respond voluminously to your kind invitation for the simple reason that I have scarcely a moment's leisure. You ask me to give some reasons to put before the electors as to why they should support the retiring candidates. I have no plea to urge stronger than that which rests upon the folly of "exchanging horses whilst crossing the stream" for in this light I regard the position to which we have arrived with reference to the Bill, which has met with approval throughout the length and breadth of Great Britain. The retiring members of Council have one and all worked earnestly and assiduously towards the completion of the draft, and are by this time well posted in all its details, but they are only now on the threshold of their endeavours, and all those who are interested in the fight which must naturally ensue in the attempt to pass the Bill through the Houses of Parliament, would, in my opinion, act wisely by giving their support to the men who have been instrumental in drawing up the measure.

Mr. A. Sidney Campkin.

As a candidate previously and on other occasions my views have been frequently stated, and I feel it unnecessary to go into details, except with regard to the action I took in company with others to secure the rejection of Clause 2 in the Companies Bill last Session (which rejection, I think, was entirely in the interest of the qualified chemist and the general public).

With reference to the Pharmacy Bill, while I recognise the efforts of the Council to secure a more completely defined position on behalf of qualified chemists as a body, I view with apprehension the principle therein, which will have the effect of recognising and legalising unqualified company-pharmacy, and consider that a more comprehensive definition of the Act of 1868 should be sought. By an amendment of the clause relative to individual responsibility, together with a protection of title as more acceptable and satisfactory, the Legislature demands individual qualification as a sequence to personal responsibility by enforcing registration and examination by the Act of 1868, while no responsibility appears to rest upon a company (dealing in poisons and pharmaceutical preparations) consisting of persons who have had no knowledge or training in that direction, and whose only interest is financial. Unless this injustice is sought to be removed no proposals for legislation can be regarded as fair or satisfactory.

As regards the Shops (Early-closing) Bill, while entirely in sympathy with the principle sought to be established—viz., shorter hours for employés—and having regard to past experience, which points to a marked improvement in all trades in this respect by comparison with thirty or forty years since, I am still of the opinion that more is to be accomplished by mutual arrangement and moral suasion than by compulsory or permissive legislation, both of which will produce unfairness, irritation, or ineptitude. The proposed Bill can only be viewed by small tradesmen, who are numerous, with alarm, and as being framed in the sole interests of large firms, shops, and stores, who are not in such direct sympathy with the general public, and who already are not of such convenience as are the small retailers. A compulsory-closing measure would mean ruin to many such, as so many businesses are carried on without other than personal supervision.

In any event, chemists should be exempt from the operation of the Act, and in this connection Clause 9 hardly goes far enough, as most of the things applied for after closing hours can be defined as for medical or surgical use in some way; hence the difficulty of definition in practical administration of the Act.

If elected, I should do my utmost to attend to the details not only of Council but committee work, and, residing within easy distance of London, there would be no difficulty as to both.

Mr. Octavius Corder, of Norwich.

In answer to your inquiries I consider the outgoing members of Council are worthy to be re-elected, inasmuch as without exception they have uniformly attended to their duties. They have put before the Government a draft Pharmacy Bill which, if not all they could wish, is at any rate as much as they can expect to be granted. Also during the past three years (I can speak from personal experience) no deserving case has come before the Benevolent Fund committee but that it has met with a ready and generous response.

Mr. R. Lord Gifford, of Blackburn.

I have an intimate knowledge of the conditions under which the drug trade is carried on, and I am familiar with the opinions of registered chemists.

All registered chemists agree that we lie under an injustice. The evil is unqualified practice. The only remedy is to make unqualified practice impossible. All except qualified persons must be restricted from using statutory titles and retailing, dispensing, or compounding scheduled poisons. Personal qualification is our one platform, and any complication of this issue bad policy.

"Vested interests" is a bogey cry. The interests, properly acquired, of registered chemists are the only vested interests we need to deal with. What possible claim can corporate bodies, which cannot qualify, have to interests which the law says can only be obtained by examination? Certainly companies, equally with individuals, possess an interest in the ordinary "drug-trade"; in the sale of scheduled poisons and the use of titles, none whatever. Of all bodies compelled to qualify, why have chemists alone no protection?

The draft Bill is admirable, and has my hearty support. An important principle of the Bill, and one with which I agree, is that a qualified person should be in charge at each chemist's shop. We ought to go beyond this, however. None but a chemist should own one. Undoubtedly, if it be right for a limited company to own a chemist's shop, as such, then a responsible individual—say a joiner or grocer—has even stronger claim to be enabled to do the same. The principle is the same as that governing the medical man and qualified assistant. In respect to Clause 10 I have always advocated maintenance of a high educational standard, but alongside of this must always be the necessity of protective privileges. Clause 7 would be worth fighting for if it finished at "medical prescriptions" in the third line; if Clause 2 was altered in the same spirit we should have a Bill for which the Council would obtain the entire and enthusiastic support of the great body of chemists. Why, as Mr. Rymer Young asked in the Council a year ago, can we not legislate for the 95 per cent. neglecting the few who are interested in companies?

If a company is managed by a directorate consisting of one or more qualified persons it may keep retail shops under qualified management, according to the new draft Bill, but these directors are actually wholesale druggists. No one suggests extending the operations to the wholesale trade; why, then, should these directors need qualification? We profess to insist upon the principle of the 1868 Act, yet a body of directors, possibly consisting of one person even, is supposed to be personally in charge of two hundred establishments. This is reducing personal qualification to an absurdity. The question for decision is the one of qualified management—is it sufficient or not? In my opinion it is not, therefore we must insist upon proprietary—i.e., professional—qualification. The alternative is a "tied-house" system, with capital paramount.

Will the Government accept Clause 7? It is most improbable. Has the Council faced this contingency? We shall be in a very serious position if the Government will not accept the clause. In the event of this happening, and providing the Council still cannot agree to fight for the 1868 Act, I would favour a policy of at once insisting upon titles being rigidly limited to qualified persons; indeed, I advocate, and have done so for years, taking test cases, prosecuting the biggest persons who use titles contrary to the Act. No adequate reason has ever been given against such a course.

We suffer one injustice which overshadows all else. The acknowledged principle of the 1868 Act is a dead letter. Chemists have been negligent so long that vitalising that principle is necessarily difficult. I do not believe in giving up because of difficulty, and I will not cry "Peace" when there is none—all opinion is in agreement that unqualified practice is the evil. I am convinced that properly directed agitation would secure us the remedy.

Mr. David McLaren, of Edinburgh.

Forty-two years' experience, twenty-six in the retail and sixteen in the wholesale, have brought me into contact with many, and

given me opportunities of hearing and knowing the views of those engaged in the drug-trade. I am, therefore, in a position to speak for my pharmacist-friends in Scotland, but in saying so will, if elected, go to London with an open mind, to learn, not to



MR. D. McLAREN.

instruct. I give an unqualified support to the Bill as presented to Parliament by the Pharmaceutical Society, and will do all I can to get it passed into law.

The time has now come when the question of the by-laws regulating the examinations of the Society should be well thought over. All men are not able to keep their sons at school or college till they acquire their M.A. or B.Sc. Some of our best assistants have come from the families of the artisan class, so do not make the examining-fees prohibitive. The decision in the cases *Strachan v. The Pharmaceutical Society* was just. The English and Scottish Boards of Examiners must be maintained as at present.

I look for support from my English and Welsh friends, many of whom will remember me as the convener of the Excursion Committee when the Conference visited this city. To many who were not at this Conference, but who have met or heard of me under other circumstances, I also look hopefully for support, feeling, as I do, that Scotland unaided cannot possibly return a representative to the Council.

My experience as a member of the Executive of the North British Branch for some years, and service on public bodies, have given me knowledge that will be useful in the work of the Pharmaceutical Council. From 1863 till the present day I have been an active member of all associations for the welfare of the members of our profession.

Mr. J. W. T. Morrison, of Tring.

I am not the proprietor of a large establishment carried on under a fictitious name, but a typical example of the large body of provincial pharmacists, and am well acquainted with all the trials and tribulations to which the average chemist is subject. (The greater number of the members of the Council, I venture to say, are men who know absolutely nothing of the vicissitudes of our calling.) I have the time at my disposal to attend the Council-meetings, and, if elected, I shall court the correspondence of chemists on matters which they would wish brought before the Council, so that I may endeavour in every way to be a true representative of the rank and file of our craft.

We do not propose to devote further space to the views of candidates, but shall be glad to receive copies of any circular sent out on their behalf.

It has been suggested to us that the best way for Scotch members to ensure at least one of their four candidates getting into the Council is—take a postcard vote of the voters in Scotland. For that purpose it would be necessary for the four candidates to agree to abide by the decision, which is most unlikely; at any rate all names must now go on the voting-list. Mr. J. B. Stephenson is understood to be the quasi-official candidate.

Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1/-, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," April 3, 1901.)

"CAMBERDENE" (no claim for "Camber"); for a preparation for colouring polony skins. By P. Kenyon, 29 Byrane Arcade, Huddersfield. 235,503.

"WATERINE" (no claim for "Water"); for a chemical compound for cleaning boilers, &c. By the Wilson Company (Limited), 1 Arundel Street, Strand. 235,513.

"CELERIO" (no claim for "Celer"); for sensitised plates and films and photographic printing papers. By the Birmingham Photographic Company (Limited), Stechford, near Birmingham. 236,040 and 236,779.

"MYRA"; for chemicals. By H. Mack, Kohlgasse 31, Ulm o/ Danube, Germany. 236,070 and 236,071.

"SILVER BLAZE"; for chemicals. By John Clark & Co., 75 and 77 West Street, Sheffield. 236,264.

"LANOX"; for sheep dips. By Mark Smith (Limited), Louth, Lincolnshire. 236,300.

"ICHTHOSOT"; for goods in Classes 2 and 3. By the Ichthyol Gesellschaft Cordes Hermann & Co., 21 Bohnenstrasse, Hamburg, Germany. 236,551 and 236,552.

Device of shamrock-leaf and the word "Shamrock" (the essential particulars); for a headache-powder. By Samuel Nevin, 245 Woodstock Road, Belfast. 235,552.

"GLOBINAL" (the essential particular—no claim for "Glohin"); for chemicals. By "Sicco," Medicinisch Chemisches Institut vormals H. Schneider, 36 Neue Friedrich Strasse, Berlin. 235,850.

"MULSITAS" (no claim for "Mulse"); for chemicals. By Benson Harries, 84 Commercial Road, Newport, Mon. 236,137.

"OINTOLINE" (no claim for "Oint"); for chemicals. By Taylor & Co. (Limited), United Service Buildings, Strand, Swansea. 236,295.

Device of lady with hand over her forehead (the essential particular); for chemicals. By W. Howard, 244 Portsdown Road, Maida Vale. 236,345.

"GONO"; for chemicals. By Heino & Co., 6 Schneber Strasse, Leipzig. 236,488.

Combination of devices and the word "Quaker" (the essential particulars); for home Turkish-bath cabinets. By the General Supplies Company (Limited), 6 Bishop's Court, Chancery Lane, W.C. 235,894.

Combination of devices and the words "Fire-fly" (the essential particulars); for candles. By the Vinolia Company (Limited), Malden Crescent, N.W. 234,308.

"EXOPINE"; for goods in Class 47. By H. J. Gardiner, 22 Chatham Place, Hackney. 236,729.

"VELVYCRÉME"; for a toilet preparation. By Shirley Brothers, 4 Rockingham Street, Newington Causeway, S.E. 235,346.

"PRINCESS MYRA"; for goods in Class 48. By Breidenbach & Co., 48 Greek Street, Soho Square, W. 235,915.

"THYRESOL"; for cosmetics. By Farbenfabriken vormals Friedrich Bayer & Co., Koenigstrasse 27, Elberfeld, Germany. 236,172.

Design of table-gong; for a liquid metal-polish. By James Deakin & Sons (Limited), Matilda Street, Sheffield. 236,239.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," April 10, 1901.)

"PERLOID" (no claim for "Perl"); for chemicals. By Keene & Ashwell (Limited), 74 New Bond Street, W. 236,685.

Circular device with four crescents and wording; for medicines. by the Eastern Drug Company, Elm Villa, Dovercourt, Essex. 236,138.

"BOLIO"; for chemicals. By the Bolio Company, 4 Market Place, Northleach, Glos. 236,526.

"ETRELE"; for chemicals. By E. W. Balls, 17 Old Queen Street, Westminster. 236,707.

Our Town Traveller.

"AÉRATED WATERS

are what you might particularly look after during the next few weeks," said the Editor to me one day last month. "As soon as we get hot weather," he continued, "business will be very brisk in that department, and apart from that our Colonial Issue falls on April 20, and readers abroad are sure to want to know what is new in the aërated-water trade on this side. Most of them are aërated-water manufacturers, and they are the quickest in the world to take up new things."

Agreeably with these instructions I have made several calls, and now give the gist of my inquiries. I believe the observation has already been recorded that aërated-water manufacture originated in pharmacy—is really a branch of it, and although many slips have been taken off the parent stem it still remains a part of the pharmaceutical tree, or, as the more modern phrase has it, a profitable side-line. Struve, the inventor of carbonating-machines was a German apotheker, and his name is perpetuated in the title of the firm which for a generation has been conducted by the versatile Colonel Clifford Probyn. Idris, Jewsbury & Brown, Borrow, and others in England, Cantrell & Cochrane in Ireland, Duncan-Flockhart, Macfarlan, and Smith in Scotland, are names as well known in connection with aërated waters as they are with pharmacy or pharmaceutical products; and there are hundreds more who do good business in the production of aërated waters and at the same time supervise pharmacies and drug-stores. Whether there is room in the field for more or not, is a question—but I need not go into, but it is nevertheless a fact that the consumption of aërated beverages is on the increase every day. Knowing that there is nothing better for giving a fillip to business than

NEW DRINKS AND FRESH FLAVOURS,

I thought I would make no mistake if I stepped over to Southwark Street to chat with Mr. Howell, of Stevenson & Howell (Limited), and sure enough he had a very good thing indeed to show me—namely, "Sparkling Clarade." This, I reckon, will be the drink during the hot days of the coming summer. It is a combination of claret and lemonade, and although it is free from alcohol I question if the most expert could tell the difference between a glass of "clarade" and a glass of lemonade with a dash of claret in it. It is a good thirst-quencher too, and its rich, wine-tinted appearance in the bottle, combined with the pretty label which Messrs. Stevenson & Howell give with the essence, is sure to attract attention. Purchasers of the essence, which I may say is sold in Winchester quarts at 6s. a lb. get 8,000 labels and 40 showcards with each Winchester. One of the features of the essence business nowadays is that with essences of this kind liberal supplies of labels are given. Another comparatively new essence worthy of attention is lime-juice and soda. Like the "Clarade," an ounce of this essence is used to a gallon of syrup, and the drink made from the syrup is positively indistinguishable from the extemporaneously prepared article, but is quite free from the musty flavour of some lime-juices, and of course the consumer has not the trouble of mixing. Talking about trade generally I gathered from Mr. Howell that lemonade and ginger ale remain the most popular drinks of the day; but, curiously, in South Africa ginger ale has been almost displaced with aërated stone ginger beer and kola champagne. During the past twelve months, when the coast towns were crammed with people and thirst for drinks of all kinds was much increased, kola champagne has become the popular drink in South Africa, with or without a dash of whisky, with which it "goes well." There is sufficient of the active principles of the kola nut in the S. & H. soluble essence of kola champagne to give the finished liquor a distinctly tonic effect. But aërated stone ginger is the marvel of the hour. In such hot places as South Africa the brewing of ginger-beer is a perfect worry, because variations of temperature, and especially high temperature, allow extraneous micro-organisms to so seriously disturb the fermentation that the brewer can never tell how his brew will turn out. Some time ago Messrs. Stevenson & Howell stepped in

with an essence of stone ginger which is used to make, in the first instance, a syrup, and a due proportion of the syrup is put into a stone bottle, and the bottle filled with aerated water under 30 to 40 lbs. pressure, the result being a drink which I could not tell from brewed ginger-beer. It has the opalescent appearance, the steady sparkle and froth of the brewed beer, and even the slight yeasty odour which is regarded as unobtainable, except in the brewed article. This the firm appear to have happily hit in their essence. There has been quite a run on this aërated stone ginger during the war, and I can commend it to any manufacturers in hot climates. It is also very largely used at home, indeed, it is betraying no secret to say that much, if not most, of the ginger-beer now sold is the aërated article. The progress made in scientific knowledge of the constituents of oil of lemon is well reflected in the concentrated soluble essence of lemon which Messrs. S. & H. are now producing. A single ounce of this essence, neither more nor less, is used to make a gallon of lemon syrup for the filler. In flavour, solubility, and strength the essence is quite remarkable. From "appearance and "nosing" one would say it is very good oil of lemon, but it is an alcoholic essence. I might not inappropriately call it "liquefied fresh lemon peel." I do not mean by that that it is a tincture of lemon peel, for how it is made I know not. It has a far better flavour than a tincture of lemon fortified with terpeneless oil of lemon, and aërated-water manufacturers who have not tried it should place a sample order. It sells at 5s. 3d. to 5s. 6d. per lb., I understand.

CO₂

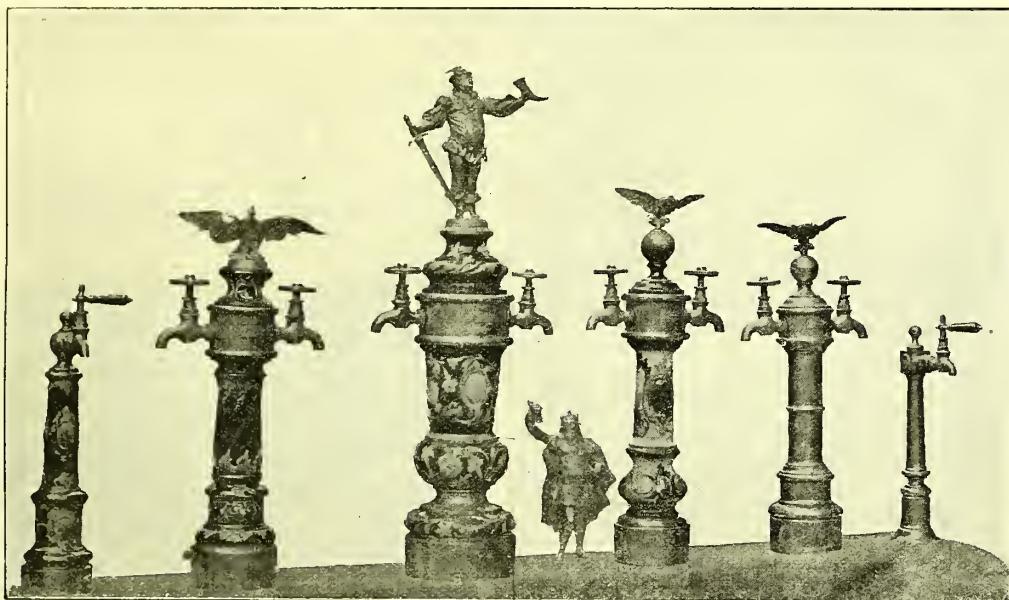
In the course of a chat with Mr. Sawood, manager of the Carbonic Acid Gas Company, at the works in Lea Bridge Road, Clapton, N.E., I got a little insight into the development of the liquid carbonic-acid gas industry during recent years. It can be quite understood that the saving in labour, trouble, and plant which a cylinder of compressed gas represents more than compensates the small manufacturer for the slight increase over the cost of production by the old method. So much is this the case that Mr. Sawood is of opinion that there are not a dozen chemists in the whole country who make their own carbonic-acid gas. The convenience of the cylinders is well known to all aërated-water manufacturers, and the price in London, or Manchester, Newcastle, or where-ever no carriage has to be paid, comes out at about 3d. per lb. only. One pound of gas is calculated to fill ten dozen bottles, large and small mixed. Carriage is the principal cost, and the prohibitive freights charged by the shipping companies hamper export-trade. Although much used for carbonating beer and for refrigerating purposes, the mineral-water trade is the backbone of the liquid CO₂ business. The gas is used, however, for many purposes, the latest which has come to Mr. Sawood's knowledge being its employment in the working of a patent for assisting steam-raising. How the gas is used in the process Mr. Sawood knows not, but he showed me an export-order for Australia ready to be sent out, in which the gas is said to be for that purpose. Although classed amongst "dangerous substances" by the railway companies, there is little real danger in the use of the cylinders. Each of them is annealed every four years and tested every two years, and I was shown an ingenious water-jacket arrangement for the testing. As the tubes come into stock (only steel tubes are now used) each one is put in the jacket, is surrounded by water, and is subjected to more than double the usual pressure that it bears, when the least flaw is shown by the amount of water left in the indicator-tube. Each cylinder holds 27 lbs. of gas, capable of filling from 230 dozen to 250 dozen mineral-water bottles of 10 oz. capacity. The company sends out with each consignment, or at request supplies, full directions about the means of saving the gas and adapting the cylinders to any existing apparatus. The principal things to be guarded against are leakage of the valves, from jostling in transit, and freezing. The valves should be examined by the consignee as soon as the tubes arrive, and tightened if necessary. Much gas is wasted by the small manufacturer, Mr. Sawood assured me, who only fills a few bottles or syphons at a time.

THE NEEDFUL APPARATUS.

Since last I was at Messrs. Barnett & Foster's Niagara Works, Eagle Wharf Road, N., a new suite of offices

has been added for the principals. Electric light has been installed, and all parts of the premises are in telephonic communication with each other. I surmise that this is an indication of increasing business. The new things for the season are mainly in details of the standard patterns of machines. Favourites with chemists are the Z size "Niagara" machine, with a capacity of 100 dozen bottles a day, and the No 2 "Comoact," which is capable of turning out 350 dozen bottles a day by hand, or double that quantity if power is used. The latter machine is the type selected by the Metropolitan Asylums Board for use in the various institutions under their jurisdiction. I was interested in an ingenious patent saturator for increasing the efficiency of soda-water machines. Its purpose is to ensure thorough solution of the gas, which is absolutely necessary if the best quality of waters is aimed at. The saturator can be fitted to any type of machine, and may be used as the sole means of mixing the gas and water, or as supplemental to the usual agitating part of aerated-water machines. Counter-fountains are becoming more appreciated, and the trade in summer drinks will be encouraged by the installation of an apparatus for counter use. A selection of the new counter-fountains made in coloured majolica or nickel-plated metal is shown in the illustration

inspecting their factory which is a pattern of good order, cleanliness and prodigality of equipment. For example, the carbonic acid gas is produced in an apartment perfectly distinct from the bottling department, and the washed and purified gas is conveyed to the carbonators through hundreds of feet of solid block tin piping. The carbonators are sufficiently numerous to enable the water to thoroughly dissolve the gas before it is drawn into the fillers. That undoubtedly is the great secret of sparkle and piquancy in aerated beverages, because a rapid mixture of gas and water produces a false degree of aeration, while the perfect solution gives a beverage which retains its sparkle in the tumbler for the better part of an hour. I noticed this particularly in the case of the soda water made by Messrs. Jewsbury & Brown, which they send out, as they do all their aerations, in corked bottles and screw stoppered bottles as well as syphons. I am now, however, speaking of the corked variety, the corks of which are double wired, and I happened to draw the other day a bottle six months old which was as good as when it was made. I may say in passing that in the factory you find the most modern mechanical fillers alongside those of older style, and hard bottling is still done for those customers who prefer it. I should also like to mention the firm's lemon soda, a delicious drink for warm weather which



BARNETT & FOSTER'S COUNTER-FOUNTAINS.

A compressed-gas machine is used to supply the aerated beverage to the counter-fountain. The air was laden with balmy odours in the soluble-essence laboratory. The "Red Club" brand is the distinctive name for this firm's productions in soluble essences. The variety is almost endless, the more noticeable being American pipkin, champagne, cherry-cyder, claret, and lemonade, cyclists' fizz, kola champagne, lemon-squash, lime-juice and soda, vinade, and vino. It would be useless for me to attempt to describe the differences between these kinds, and the offer of Messrs. Barnett & Foster to supply samples for trial renders it unnecessary. I should notice, however, that a system of supplying well-got-up labels for the waters made from the above essences is in working order. A cost-price charge is made for the labels, so that purchasers of the essences need not feel they are paying for labels whether they have them or not. Syphon-manufacturing, another branch of this business, is going ahead; best Bohemian glass vases and leadless metal are precepts strictly observed.

SPARKLING BEVERAGES.

Amongst those who long ago solved the difficulty of producing aerated waters that will keep good are Messrs. Jewsbury & Brown, of Ardwick Green, Manchester. I had the opportunity some time ago during a provincial visit of

has a special advantage of going well with whisky without giving that mawkish flavour noticeable in lemonade and whisky. In an isolated part of the factory I found a brewing department for old fashioned stone ginger beer, which started the firm's interest in beverages early last century. Nowadays Jewsbury's ginger has companions in such drinks as non-alcoholic hop ale, and they are all produced in good saleable style. The whole factory is under scientific control, and rigid analyses are made of every educt and product.

SCIENCE AND ESSENCES.

On my last visit to the London Essence Company's place at George Street, Camberwell, they had just recently been installed in the premises. Now I find they have considerably expanded and everything is in excellent and shipshape order. I walked through the laboratories and stillrooms, as well as several extensive floors, until I was weary, then Mr. J. F. Child, the manager, and Mr. Burgess, the company's chemist, brought me at last to the kernel of the whole matter—namely, the chemical and physical laboratories where testing is done. The chemical laboratory is small and well equipped, and the physical laboratory is an eye-opener. Here I found some of the latest models of such instruments as the spectroscope, polariscope, refractometer,

and the tintometer, and I could not help querying the need for it all. "Is it necessary? Cannot you get along without it?" I asked. Not that I lack sympathy with the best possible equipment for research, but I was curious. The reply was straight. "Nothing which enables us to determine with absolute accuracy the composition of an article do we consider unnecessary. For example, in the matter of colourings we have a very big business, and with the tintometer we can tell exactly the degree of colour of any sample submitted to us, and the fact is recorded in our books for future guidance, while we never buy any colour such as chlorophyll unless we first test it with the tintometer. Every essential oil bought and sold by us is rigidly examined physically as well as chemically. We know, for example, exactly what factors pure oil of lemon should have, and with these instruments it is as easy to tell the difference between pure and adulterated samples as it is to tell by the nose the difference between whale oil and bergamot."

"Does it pay?"

"Pay! Of course it does. We save time by it, and always know exactly what we sell and what it costs. It cannot help paying. Science always pays if it is well applied, and the better your instruments the quicker and better the results."

I need scarcely say that science was not concentrated in the two laboratories. In the still-room I looked into a huge vacuum-pan which contained 2,000 lbs. of oil of lemon. That was for terpeneless oil, but incidentally the fractionation is to aid in an important research that these workers have in hand. Lemon oil is, by the way, a heavy item with the company, and they have a big stock. But the object of my visit was to see what there is new in drinks, and I learnt that the good old-fashioned wines, such as the elderberry and cowslip, are to be the order of the summer. I liked the cowslip wine as an aerated water. It has a rich golden colour and nice flavour. "Vinade" is a compound drink, rather of the hock character, and there are others in embryo which will please the public. For compounding these essences the company have large stocks of natural fruit-juices made in the season and stored in barrels holding up to 530 gallons. They are liberal with the samples.

COSA SYPHON-MACHINE.

I was present this week at a demonstration of the working of the "Cosa" syphon-filling machine at the Aeration Supplies Company (Limited), 42 Copt Hall Avenue, E.C. The machine is put forward as an economical and quick way of producing soda or other aerated waters by chemists. The illustration explains the outline of the apparatus: on the right is a tube of carbonic-acid gas fitted with the usual pressure-valve and gauge. From this the gas is led, at 175 lbs. pressure, into the round container, whilst water from the main is run into the bottom chamber. The tap separating the gas and water is then opened and the contents of the two chambers shaken together for twenty seconds. The water is now aerated ready for filling into syphons, a lever being provided for holding down the tap of the syphon, and shifting is done by means of a valve-tap. The whole of the operation can be done in forty-five seconds, but reckoning it as a minute for each syphon a speed of sixty an hour can easily be attained. The following are some of the advantages of the system. There is less risk of bursting either bottles or syphons, on account of the lower pressure at which they are filled. Syphons of soda-water are never filled in aerated-water factories at a lower pressure than 180 lbs. per square inch. A tube of compressed gas costs 6s. 6d., and is sufficient for 500 syphons, which, with labour, makes the cost about 3d. a dozen. When it is required to make medicated waters the various salts in pilular form are placed in the spout of the syphon, whilst in the case of lemonade the syrup is

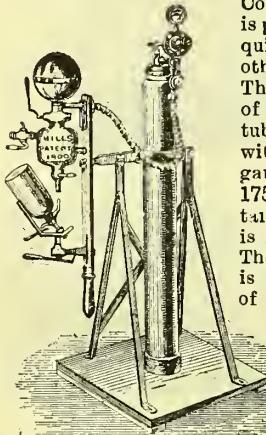
previously injected with a syringe. The machine is made for either bottles or syphons, or for both, and is comparatively inexpensive. Chemists who are anxious to make a bigger profit on their aerated waters should get particulars of the "Cosa."

THE AMERICAN STYLE IN AERATED WATERS

is, of course, the soda-fountain. About three years since an attempt was made to introduce such fountains on this side. I have watched the movement with some curiosity, because it is not the first time the thing has been tried. Would Mr. N. W. Stiles succeed where others had failed? I know of a few shops where he has installed the American Soda-fountain Company's elegant apparatus (Matthews is the more familiar name), and they have done well for the chemists. Mr. Stiles himself tells me that during the past six weeks his firm have erected forty-five fountains principally in chemists' shops, each soda-water fountain averaging about 100*l*. in value.

"The trade has at last wakened up to the fact," said Mr. Stiles, "that the soda-fountain, as an adjunct to the chemist's business, is a paying thing. It has taken three years to get the idea into the heads of British pharmacists, but now our labour is bearing fruit. Orders are coming in fast, not only for businesses in London, but also in the provinces."

I gathered from Mr. Stiles that hitherto American manufacturers had failed in getting American soda-water apparatus into England because they did not provide their customers with the necessary information about working them. That is what Mr. Stiles's firm (Messrs. N. W. Stiles & Son, 94 Gray's Inn Road, E.C.) have done. They fit up each soda-fountain free of charge in any part of the British Islands, and teach the purchaser how to make the syrups and how to dispense the drinks. Furthermore, should anything occur to put a fountain out of gear a note to them brings a workman to put everything in the proper condition again. We reproduce a photograph of a fountain erected last week in



INTERIOR OF MR. FOSTER'S PHARMACY (FOUNTAIN AT THE BACK)

the shop of Mr. M. E. Foster, pharmaceutical chemist, Bishopsgate Street, E.C. It is one of the latest designs in the company's fountains, and there are many beautiful

designs to choose from. Yes, the soda-fountain has caught on, and although I, as a good pharmacist, could not say that it would make an appropriate adjunct in the best class of dispensing pharmacies. I feel that the fountain fills a gap in many businesses, and supplies the means of furnishing the public, at the minimum of trouble, with draughts more or less "medicated," and always thirst-quenching.

CAMWAL PROGRESS.

The progress of Camwal (Limited) is bound up with the interests of a good many chemists in this country. I journeyed up to Pembroke Street, N., to ask the manager some questions pertaining to these interests. "Why should not a chemist with a fair trade in aerated waters go in for making the waters himself?" was the query I put to Mr. Pirie. "Some of them do," he replied, "but the undertaking is no light one. Come over the factory and you will realise what it means." We passed along aisles of stacked syphons into the factory. The machinery is very costly, each saturator being worth 500*l.* The life of a syphon is about eight years, during which time there are constant repairs to be done in the metal tops. The loss from breakage is enormous, a thousand pounds hardly covers it some years. Camwal makes a feature of the analytical control—not only are the raw materials tested, but products are systematically examined. Every new batch of syphon-tops needs to have the metal tested for lead; if found in traces only the metal is not good enough to come near Camwal waters. The risks to the workpeople are considerable, and compensation for accidents is a heavy item in the aerated-water trade. In odd corners I came across discarded soda-water machinery and barrows full of syphon-tops which the company have allowed chemists for who have discarded the manufacture as too troublesome. "We can only sell the tops as old metal," Mr. Pirie explained. Returning to the office I learned that in a few days an enlargement of the works is to commence which will double the present space. In advertising-ideas the company are as pushing as ever. The small electrically-lighted syphons for displaying inside the shop-windows are now the leading line, and the mahogany syphon-stands for displaying syphons in the shop are going strong. The popular match-box syphons make an attractive show if displayed in quantity on a plush-covered stand. Where the waters are being introduced this has been found a sure way of bringing them to the notice of the public. The new styles in syphon-coolers are quieter in tone than formerly, and if brought to the notice of housewives should sell well. The coolers catch the drips from the syphon-spouts and prevent soiling the table-cloth. The syphon recording-book is not so well taken up by chemists as it might be. The word "Camwal" is in red on the original. The labels with

No.	Date.....	Agent for "CAMWAL" Table Waters.
Lent to	Date.....	No.
.....	.....	This Syphon is not Sold but Lent, and remains the property of
.....	.....	A. PHARMACIST, FAMILY CHEMIST, BLANTOWN.
.....	.....	It is requested that it be re- turned as soon as Empty.
.....	.....	N.B.—Any person buying or selling this Syphon is liable to prosecution.
Received back.....	.....

counterfoil are arranged five on a page, in books of 1,500, and sell at 8*s.* The public have a wholesome respect for labelled syphons, and fewer losses result to the chemist. I would also recommend chemists only to sell syphons with silver-plated tops; the difference in cost is but small compared with the smarter and better appearance which such syphons have.

BOTTLES AT THE DOCKS.

I spent an interesting hour recently at the bottle-warehouses of Messrs. Johnsen & Jörgensen, the East India Docks, Poplar. Accompanied by Mr. Poths—whose reminiscences, culled from a life-long experience of glass-manufacture in Bohemia and elsewhere, were no small part of my pleasure—I traversed buildings hundreds of feet long and ninety odd feet broad stored with glass bottles of all varieties, sizes, and shapes. In the first building bins (containing each about 250 gross) of wine and spirit bottles were stacked alongside each other, while in the centre were about thirty girls busily washing the bottles, and others examining the washed bottles for straws or flaws. Another set of girls was checking special bottles, such as those used for bovril, each bottle being weighed, and all bad shapes rejected. The second building is as large as the first (about 200 feet by 97 feet), and containing an immense stock of the kind of bottles with which chemists are more familiar. Dispensing flats and phials of all sizes, amber malts, kalis, flat feeders, and many other sorts met in everyday life are stored in mats and crates on the ground floor. Here more washing goes on, and four large drying-cupboards are employed. Upstairs in the gallery girls were corking or fitting with caps (—crown, nickel, or celluloid) such things as pomade-bottles and kalis. These are then packed in dozens in wooden or cardboard boxes, and are ready for the customers. Some idea of the variety may be gathered from the fact that at least fifty different sizes of screws and caps are used. Round the gallery were packed shelves containing perfume-bottles, lozenge-jars with cut-glass knobs (a specialty), hundreds of grosses of medicine tumblers and measures—all plain and ready to be graduated—toilet-bottles of all kinds, show-jars, and show-bottles. The neat and safe way in which the cylindrical counter show-bottles for pills and suchlike are packed interested me. The packing is done by women in Bohemia, Mr. Poths informed me, and they become very dexterous in the wrapping. The bottle is first wrapped in pink paper, then straw is wound round it in such a way as to afford complete protection for every part, and, to finish off, the straw is tied in a neat knot. Here I also discovered packages of pill-boxes and screw-top postal blocks for protecting medicines or samples sent abroad. Here also are kept two or three complete sets of shop-rounds ready for delivery containing all that is required for the fitting-out of a new pharmacy. In a third building which I inspected were stocks of bottles of special design used by various manufacturers of proprietary articles, such as meat-extracts, hair-restorers, and household requisites. Stocks of mineral-water bottles are not kept on the premises; these are shipped direct to the customer. Messrs. Johnsen & Jörgensen employ here, I gathered, between sixty and seventy hands. They have fourteen vans constantly in use, and two jetties and a large wharf exclusively for the delivery of their cargoes. These figures indicate what the foreign-bottle business is, and yet the home trade is not slack by any means, for elsewhere on this journey I met a man who told me he could sell 30,000*l.* worth of soda-water bottles yearly if he could get the sole agency for a good make.

A GUARANTEE OF PURITY.—The arsenic-in-beer scare dies hard in some parts of England, says a contemporary. All of us are not so easily assured as was a working-man the other day, who, in reply to an inquiry as to the purity of beer with which he had been served, was informed by the landlady that it must be pure, because "it had been paralysed by two anarchists!"

A SMALLPOX-REMEDY.—A recipe said to be as "unfailing as fate" and "to conquer in every instance" in those virulent diseases scarlet-fever and smallpox has been resuscitated by a correspondent to the *Scotsman*. It was in use about thirty years in California, and is as follows:—

Sulphate of zinc 1 gr.
Digitalis 1 gr.
Sugar half a teaspoonful.

These are to be thoroughly mixed with two table-spoonfuls of water, 4 oz. of water subsequently added, and "a spoonful" taken every hour by adults, proportionate doses being given to children.

Diary Postcard Competitions.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SECTION.

ONCE again we sort and adjust the familiar orange post-cards which come to us annually, from apparently "the uttermost ends of the earth," in answer to our behests concerning the DIARY. As with the home subscribers so we find that colonials caught on to the double-chance idea with avidity, and the result was an increase of competitors and an increased difficulty in judging the prize-winners. However, we have waded through tersely-expressed opinions from Jamaica, Ceylon, Copenhagen, Buenos Ayres, Beaulieu-sur-Mer, Deccan, Durban, D'm rara, Trinidad, Bangalore, Barbados, and many other places that are only names to most of us, but where British pharmacy is being ably upheld, and the net results as regards opinions concerning the DIARY advertisements (P.C. Competition B) are practically the same as those of our home competitors as published in our issue of January 26 page 130. The best and most useful advertisements, say our foreign friends, are those of Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., with Stevenson & Howell (Limited), Allen & Hanburys (Limited), Hearon, Squire & Francis (Limited) Daisy (Limited), Fletcher, Fletcher & Co., and others following closely. They are also agreed with their home brethren that Pears' is the most popular toilet-soap, that Stevenson & Howell's fruit-pages are the neatest, and that "Daisy" is the happiest-named article in the Buyers' Guide. But on the question of the scheduled poison most frequently asked for carbolic acid comes out an easy first. White precipitate is second, and opium and its preparations, which we at home found to be first, take third place. Then comes strychnine, and following it arsenic.

The keynote to the popularity of the last article may be found in a note appended to a Queensland subscriber's reason for voting for arsenic: "There are a lot of trappers about here." Oxalic acid, corrosive sublimate, aconite, red precipitate, chloral hydrate (which a Victorian competitor informs us is largely used for the cure of mick-fever), cyanide of potassium, nux vomica, and vermin-killers are all mentioned; but one subscriber in Buenos Ayres states that he does "not handle poisons for that market."

Two competitors—

Mr. C. R. J. Glover, 165 Gilles Street, Adelaide, S.A., and

Mr. J. S. Dodds, Akaroa, Canterbury, New Zealand,

have guessed six correctly, and to these gentlemen we have awarded 1*l* 5*s*. each, being the same amount as the successful competitors in the home competition received.

The following got five questions right, and to each we have sent a copy of "The Art of Dispensing":—

Mr. C. R. Kiver, P.O. Box 387, Christchurch, N.Z.

Mr. J. H. Kirkby, 177 Lambton Quay, Wellington, N.Z.

APPRECIATIONS.

The tributes which have come in on Post-card A. compare very favorably as regards numbers and literary merit with those we have already printed at various times. We will let ten of the best speak for themselves:—

New Zealand tenders welcome to the grand old C. & D., Whose DIARY came at Xmas from afar across the sea. Much wisdom of the century within its pages stored, To be absorbed by wise men, and by very few ignored. From Canada to India, from Ceylon to Peru, Wherever druggists wander—the DIARY's meant for you.

T. H. KIRKBY, 177 Lambton Quay, Wellington, N.Z.

"Protection"—the confounded motto of this land; So when the C. & D. DIARY came to hand The Customs notified us "they were willing To let it through on payment of a shilling" But when we'd time to read it through and judge it, We found it was worth pounds—and didn't grudge it.

WILLIAM A. BECK, The Dispensing Pharmacy, Marlborough Road, Moonee Ponds, Victoria.

The quality of the DIARY is not strained, It droppeth as the gentle dew from England Upon parched India. It blesseth he who gives and he who gets, But he who getteth most.

J. A. MIERS, The Pharmacy, Mussoorie, India.

For ten shillings a year, or about tuppence a week! Now how do they do it? An answer I seek. And the DIARY, too, that's sent over the sea To the man at the Cape or midst heathen Chinee, Is a wonder, a marvel, and costs no more pence. Pray what will they give us a century hence?

ROBERT GILBERT EACOTT, c/o Signor Gentile Luigi, The Pharmacy, Alassio.

We "Colonials," you know, are a little stage below Our "home" brothers, on a pharmaceutical standing, Though you won't give us a show, to teach you what we know, Nor recognise our Alma Mater's branding. Yet your generous hearts confer (in this we one and all concur) Many blessings on your poor benighted brothers, And the C. & D., dear Sir, is a blessing we prefer Far before and over all of any others.

Now, for ten and six a year (postage swallows that I fear), Fifty volumes and the DIARY you send us! If we growl and call that dear, or if no words of thanks you hear, Then from hard and thankless hearts may heaven defend us.

PHILIP L. ANDREWS, Beaconsfield, Tasmania.

We have studied THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY from cover to cover, and find nothing like it from all the world over.

THEO. J. BRICKHILL, Chemist, Estcourt, Natal.

Wherever there floats the Empire's flag each chemist has gleefully told

Of a book he receives just once a year, all titled in letters of gold.

'Tis the book of books for the medicine-man, in its praise he'll loudly sing,

For within its boards he findeth hoards of news of every thing.

Now what is the Pillman's wonderful book? I will tell, 'twixt you and me,

'Tis the DIARY for nineteen hundred and one, and comes from the C. & D.

W. DONALD, Chemist, Botany, near Sydney, N.S.W.

'Tis just the sort of book we need,

As chemists large or small,

For in its pages we may read

Something to suit us all;

And to "our trade" it opes the door,

Where 're one lives the Empire o'er.

J. N. BARCHAM, Chemist, Romsey, Victoria.

To say that the C. & D. DIARY, 1900, is the equal of its predecessors should be perhaps sufficient in praise of it. Its well-displayed advertisements, Buyers' Guide, useful information re Postage-rates, Foods and Drugs Act, &c., as well as its spacious DIARY, renders it most valuable, while the excellent article on opening a pharmacy should prove a veritable boon to any person contemplating opening a business. Taken altogether, it is a book it would be exceedingly difficult to replace.—H. W. HOAD, c/o Mr. A. A. Simpson, Denison Street, Hamilton, N.S.W.

The DIARY contains the very latest kind of ammunition for the drug-trade. The spicy ad.'s break down all the earthworks of competition.—J. S. BELL, Lillooet, British Columbia, Canada.

The prize of one guinea has been divided between

Mr. W. A. BECK, Moonee Ponds, Victoria; and

Mr. R. G. EACOTT, c/o Signor Gentile Luigi, The Pharmacy, Alasia, Italy.

Copies of "The Art of Dispensing" have, moreover, been forwarded to—

Mr. P. L. ANDREWS, Beaconsfield, Tasmania.

Mr. T. J. BRICKHILL, Estcourt, Natal, S.A.

Mr. J. A. MIERS, The Pharmacy, Mussoorie, India.

Mr. J. S. BELL, Lillooet, British Columbia.

New Books.

Andés, L. E. *Drying Oils, Boiled Oil, and Solid and Liquid Driers.* 8*½* x 5*½*. Pp. 342. 12s. 6d. (Scott, Greenwood & Co.)

Foster, C. Le N. *Text-book of Ore and Stone Mining.* 4th ed., enl. by L. H. Cooke. 8*½* x 5*½*. Pp. 792. 31s. (Griffin.)

Potter, S. O. L. *Handbook of Materia Medica, Pharmacy, and Therapeutics.* 8vo. 21s net. R-bman.

Smith, A. E. *Colour-photography: Practical Treatise for Amateurs.* 7 x 4*½*. Pp. 72. Limp, 1s. (Hazel.)

Walker, J. *Introduction to Physical Chemistry.* 2nd ed. 9 x 5*½*. Pp. 356. 10s. net. (Macmillan.)

Wauklyn, J. A. *Arsenic.* 7*½* x 4*½*. Pp. 108. 2s. 6d. (Paul.)

Watt, A. *Art of Soapmaking: Practical Handbook of Manufacture of Hard and Soft Soaps and Toilet Soaps.* 6th ed. 7*½* x 4*½*. Pp. 324. 7s. 6d. (Lockwood.)

The Australian Drug-trade.

Some of the Wholesale Houses.

WE are now on the eve of the official consummation of one of the rarest events in the history of a nation—viz., the federation of a group of colonies which owe allegiance to the British Throne. By the time that these lines are read in Australasia, the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York will be in the midst of the festivities which signalise the cementing of the Governments and peoples of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Western Australia, and Victoria, into a Commonwealth. The administrative advantages which will follow this act are assured. Experience in the case of the union of the Canadian provinces has been singularly happy, for while the individualities of the provinces have been retained, the people as a whole are proud to call themselves Canadians, and they are more than ever Britisher. That a like result is desirable in Australia no one will gainsay, and it is better that the thing should be done soon than late.

Business-men who have visited the colonies are agreed that the federation will immensely influence for good the business of the colonies. That opinion is shared by wholesale houses in the colonies. Under the isolated system there were certain bars to trading, which are now removed, and uniform fiscal arrangements will be advantageous to exporting houses on this side. The drug-trade, like every other in all the colonies except New South Wales (which is a free-trade colony), has had to contend with unequal tariffs, which in some instances are virtually protective. A few examples of the differences may be quoted:—

—	Queens- land	Victoria	S.A.	W.A.
Acid (sulphuric) ...	5s. cwt.	1s. cwt.	5s. cwt.	15 p.c.
Baking-powder ...	25 p.c.	20 p.c.	10 p.c.	3d. lb.
Beeswax ...	25 p.c.	Free	3 <i>d.</i> lb.	2 <i>d.</i> lb.
Bottles ...	Free	3 <i>d.</i> —6 <i>d.</i> doz.	20 p.c.	5 p.c.
Cough-lozenges ...	4 <i>d.</i> lb.	25 p.c.	20 p.c.	15 p.c.
Cream of tartar ...	Free	Free	10 p.c.	10 p.c.
Druggists' ware ...	25 p.c.	—	10 p.c.	15 p.c.
Drugs and chemicals ...	25 p.c.	Most free	10 p.c.	15 p.c.
Fancy soap ...	3 <i>d.</i> lb.	4 <i>d.</i> lb.	4 <i>d.</i> lb.	20 p.c.
Fullers' earth ...	25 p.c.	Free	10 p.c.	15 p.c.
Gentian-root ...	Free	Free	10 p.c.	15 p.c.
Instruments, surgical ...	25 p.c.	Free	Free	10 p.c.
Patent medicines ...	25 p.c.	25 p.c.	15 p.c.	10 p.c.
Soap	10 <i>s.</i> cwt.	2 <i>d.</i> lb.	1 <i>d.</i> lb.	7 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> cwt.

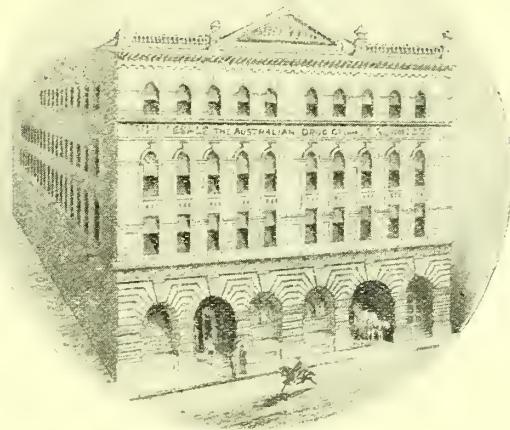
Under the Federal Government these anomalous duties will be equalised, and the strong free-trade influence of New South Wales will go towards wiping out anything in the nature of protective interests, which hitherto in other Legislatures have had a decided influence.

We do not suppose that a period of protection would seriously, if at all, affect the business relations between the Australian and home drug-trade, because under the more disturbing influences already referred to the volume of business has been growing. To THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Australian trade has a peculiar interest, in so far as its influence in all the colonies is as potent as it is at home, and it is the exception for a pharmacist out there to attempt to get along without his *C. & D.* In 1885 members of our editorial and publishing staffs left London to open a *C. & D.* office in Melbourne, and during the years that have elapsed the *Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*, which is published there monthly, has become the standard organ for inter-

colonial pharmacy matters. Branch offices have also been opened in Sydney, N.S.W., and Adelaide, S.A. Our colleagues out there have been good enough to assist us in obtaining particulars respecting some of the wholesale houses in the colonies, and the notes with the pictures suffice to show how advanced business is there.

The Australian Drug Company (Limited).

This is the company which, until about a year ago, was managed by Mr. F. Kemp, who came to London and got the adherence of the proprietors of Dinneford's magnesia to an anti-cutting scheme which he is to work out commercially in New South Wales. Of that we gave particulars a few months ago. The Australian Drug Company's headquarters are in O'Connell Street, Sydney, where they have the spacious building with the handsome and solid frontage figured here. The company's business was removed into these premises in 1894. The ground floor is devoted to offices, and



AUSTRALIAN DRUG COMPANY'S WAREHOUSE AND FACTORY,
SYDNEY.

there are two showrooms, an exceptionally large one being reserved for sundries, surgical goods, and toilet-articles, while in a smaller apartment are exhibited dental goods. The company are large importers, and since 1894 they have gone more fully into manufacturing pharmaceutical products. Besides a general laboratory they have one for manufacturing alcoholic preparations in bond, the latter being in a separate building in Spring Street. A well-equipped pill-making department consists of four large rooms, and tablet-making is also a feature of the house. A lengthy account of the warehouse was published in the *Chemist and Druggist of Australasia* in July, 1894. The company also carries on the manufacture of glass bottles, the works being at North Botany, a suburb of Sydney. Since Mr. F. Kemp's retirement the company has been under the management of Messrs. A. Miller, W. T. Treadway, and A. Kemp.

A. M. BICKFORD & SONS.

This South Australian firm was founded by a Devonian—Mr. William Bickford, who was born at Churchstow, Devon—

shire, and sailed from Plymouth in 1839 for South Australia. When he reached Adelaide he spent a few months in the service of a Dr. Bright, then opened a chemist's shop in

were preparing themselves for the partnership which was given to them in 1864, when the firm became A. M. Bickford & Sons. These young men (whose portraits at the present time are given here) have now associated with them in the business a third generation of the Bickford family. They started the wholesale branch, and by assiduous travelling developed it, also doing good business in the manufacture of cordials and aërated waters, the latter ultimately being relegated to a separate building in Waymouth Street. The growth of the wholesale trade forced the firm to build new premises on a site at the corner of Currie and Leigh Streets, which were opened for business-purposes in 1879. These buildings contain splendid warehouse accommodation, show-rooms, and offices, and to them in 1889 were added extensive laboratories and assaying-rooms. Apart from the considerable amount of work done in the strictly pharmaceutical part of the business, the firm's connection with the beverage trade gives employment to a separate staff in the aërated-water and cordial factory, which is a separate building. South Australia, like other parts of the great Antipodean continent, has an abounding thirst for beverages, and those of a non-alcoholic character are even more in favour than "strong waters"; while in tea-consumption Australia leads the world. Mr. Harding Bickford, one of the third generation of the family, after six years' experience in the house, came to England and passed the Minor. He is still here furthering his knowledge of chemical processes. The firm have five travellers in the colony, and have a branch at

Perth, Western Australia. A photograph of this warehouse was reproduced in the winter issue of *THE CHEMIST AND*



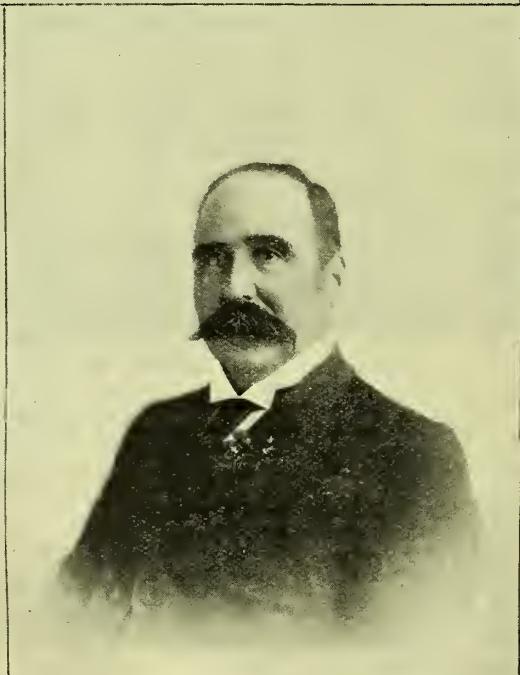
BICKFORD'S BUILDINGS, ADELAIDE, S.A.

Hindley Street, and in a remarkably short space of time the trade had increased so much that he removed to larger

Perth, Western Australia. A photograph of this warehouse was reproduced in the winter issue of *THE CHEMIST AND*



Mr. William Bickford



Mr. Harry Bickford.

premises in the same street. There, in 1850, he died. For fourteen years his widow, Mrs. A. M. Bickford, carried on the business, while her sons, William and Harry Bickford,

DRUGGIST, January 27, 1900. They make direct shipments from London and America in order to keep pace with the times.



MR. H. D. COHEN.



MR. JOHN STENNETT.

Elliott Brothers (Limited).

The Brisbane house of Messrs. Elliott Brothers (Limited) is a branch of the well-known firm in Sydney, and though the local establishment is not so pretentious as the extensive



ELLIOTT BROTHERS' CHEMICAL WORKS, BULIMBA, QUEENSLAND.

works and laboratories in the parent colony, it is equally well known in Queensland, and from its inception has been replete with everything necessary to meet the requirements of the Queensland business. The history of the firm in Australia dates from 1855, and in Queensland from 1873, when the branch in Brisbane was established by Mr. Norman Cohen and Mr. John Stennett. In 1885 Mr. Norman Cohen returned to Sydney, and was succeeded by Mr. Burnett Cohen, who, for several years in conjunction with Mr. Stennett, controlled the Queensland business. Recently, owing to ill-health, Mr. Stennett has been compelled to temporarily relinquish active association with business, and the Brisbane branch has been almost exclusively under the management of Mr. Henry D. Cohen.

In addition to the commodious and well-stocked warehouse and manufactory in Eagle Street, Brisbane, Messrs. Elliott Brothers have large works at Bulimba, where they manufacture sulphuric, hydrochloric, nitric, and sulphurous acids, and from this source the greater portion of the acids used in the mining and other industries of the colony is drawn. Prior to 1893 the works were situated at Redbank, on the Upper Brisbane River, but by the disastrous flood of that year the whole of the buildings and plant were swept away, and the firm, in common with many other commercial

houses, suffered a heavy loss. With that business thoroughness which has characterised the firm's history in Australia steps were at once taken to remedy the defect, and the present works were erected on a more extensive scale in a situation where safety from flood-influences was ensured.

During the twenty-seven years the business has been established in Queensland this firm has been closely identified with the progress of the colony, and at the present day there are few, if any, firms better known from Cape York to the southern border, and from the seaboard to the west, than that of Elliott Brothers.

We have, unfortunately, received no photographs of the New South Wales premises. The business there is one of the most important on the Australian continent. The headquarters are in O'Connell and Bligh Streets, Sydney, where the wholesale drug business in all its branches is carried on. At Long Cove, Balmain, the company have extensive works and laboratories, covering fourteen acres of land, and there, in addition to chemical and pharmaceutical manufacturing general, bismuth is smelted, and the salts of that metal are manufactured. The bismuth mines of New South Wales now rank amongst the important sources of this metal, and Messrs. Elliott Brothers were practically the first drug-trade firm out there to recognise that the metal could be won from the ore on the spot, with the view of carrying the process of refinement to the degree necessary for pharmacopoeial chemicals. They have their own mine, and have established a colonial business in the products without the aid of a protective tariff.



ELLIOTT BROTHERS' BRISBANE WAREHOUSE.

F. H. Faulding & Co.

This firm's centres of activity are in Adelaide, S.A., Perth, W.A., and Sydney, N.S.W. Their history as wholesalers dates back to 1845, so they are first in that respect. Adelaide, the capital of South Australia, was little more than a village when, in 1844, the late Mr. Francis Hardy Faulding opened a small retail chemist's business in Rundle Street. Mr. Faulding was a Yorkshireman, possessed of keen trading instincts, and he found his business increase so rapidly that in 1845 he purchased an adjoining property in Clarence Place, and upon it erected a warehouse, which he utilised for the carrying-on of a wholesale chemist's and druggist's business. In 1861 Mr. Luther Scammell, a chemist from Port Adelaide, joined Mr. Faulding in partnership, and this continued until 1868, when Mr. Faulding died. At this time Mr. Scammell was joined by Mr. Robert Foale and Mr. Philip Dakers, the latter gentleman acting as London buyer for the firm until 1888. Both these gentlemen have since died.

In 1876 Mr. Scammell acquired a valuable site in King William Street, and upon it erected the commodious three-storey warehouse which is figured. After carrying on a steadily growing business for twenty-seven years, Mr. Scammell retired on January 1, 1889, when his sons, Mr. William Joseph Scammell and Mr. Luther Robert Scammell, took over the business. Both are Muter's men, and both qualified at the Square.

The Adelaide warehouse is admirably arranged under the management of Mr. E. Lipsham, who received his training with Geo. Curling & Co., of St. Mary Axe, E.C. The firm, too, makes a speciality of assaying and analytical work, this department being under the control of Mr. G. N. Tasker, a gentleman who filled a similar post for eight years in the City Analyst's office in Glasgow.

Shortly after they took over the business they established an agency in Perth, West Australia, which was continued till 1894, when they developed it into a branch in Perth, at Murray Street, with Mr. W. W. Garner as manager. Under Mr. Garner's management both branch and business have grown immensely.

A good many people in Australia incline to the belief that Sydney is destined, under federation, to become the trading-

all combine to confirm the belief. If such be the case Messrs. Faulding & Co. will be in the running, for in 1899



FAULDING & CO.'S PERTH WAREHOUSE.

they established an agency at 16 O'Connell Street, under the management of Mr. J. P. Gold.

Messrs. F. H. Faulding & Co. have also opened a house in London, under the management of Mr. W. T. Treadaway, who was over a quarter of a century with leading firms in Melbourne and Sydney. The offices are at 54 Great Tower Street, London E.C.

Rocke, Tompsitt & Co.

This Victorian business was established in 1877 by Mr. Herbert Rocke and Mr. Henry Thomas Tompsitt, in premises



FAULDING & CO.'S WAREHOUSE IN ADELAIDE.

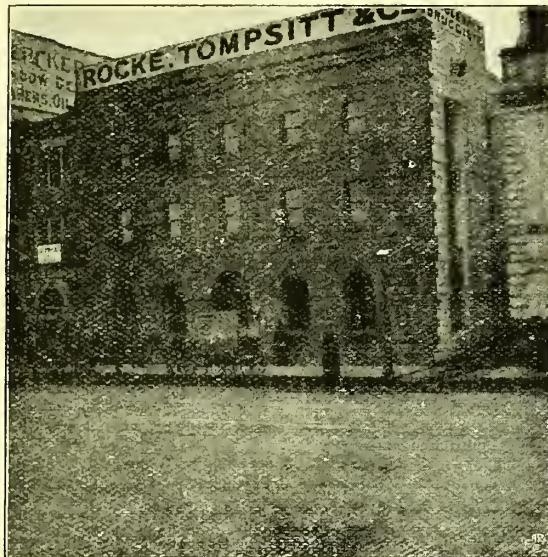
capital of the colonies. Her unique geographical position, her marvellous harbour—the terminal port for all the big lines of steamers—her population numbering close on half a million, and the extent and richness of New South Wales,



MR. H. T. TOMPSITT.

3 Flinders Street East, Melbourne. The venture proved a success, and in 1881 Mr. Rocke visited England and opened the branch now conducted at 119 and 120 London Wall

In 1883, the expansion of the Melbourne business necessitated its transference to more commodious premises, and a substantial blue-stone building, 292-298 Flinders Street,



ROCKE, TOMPSITT & CO.'S WAREHOUSE, MELBOURNE.

which had previously been occupied as a bonded store, was bought.

In 1887 Mr. Rocke died, and his interest in the firm was purchased by Mr. Tompsitt, who still carries on the business under its old title "Rocke, Tompsitt & Co." The factory and laboratory buildings in Bridge Road, Richmond, were erected in 1897. They have a frontage of 100 feet. The motive-power employed in driving the grinding-mills, tin-machinery, stirrers in evaporation-rooms, &c., is supplied by a Tangye



ROCKE, TOMPSITT & CO.'S LABORATORIES, RICHMOND.

engine and hoist. Five workrooms for girls engaged in packing proprietaries, and a store-room for finished stock, occupy the front of the building, and are separated from each other by fireproof walls. Storage-accommodation is provided in the centre of the building, and at the rear is yard-accommodation and a cottage for the caretaker. The laboratory is thoroughly equipped.

Taylor & Colledge (Limited).

This firm's commodious premises in Charlotte Street, Brisbane, are the scene of great activity, and are eloquent of the vast trade of the colony. The business, which has

recently been formed into a limited liability company, was established in 1870, and was then conducted by Berkley, Taylor & Co. In 1889 the name was altered to Prosser, Taylor & Co., and so continued until 1894, when Mr. Prosser



MR. EDWARD TAYLOR

severed his connections with it. Mr. Colledge then joined Mr. Taylor, which partnership existed right up to last year, when, in view of the greatly increasing volume of business, and the prospect of federation, a limited liability company was formed, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Colledge remaining as



MR. J. L. COLLEDGE.

managing directors. The record of the firm exhibits a career of gradual and solid growth, and in a certain way its progress reflects in miniature the success of the province.

A factory and laboratory has been opened in Mary Street distinct from the warehouse.

■ A special branch of the business is the department containing analytical requirements for gold and sugar



TAYLOR & COLLEDGE'S WAREHOUSE, CHARLOTTE STREET, BRISBANE.

chemistry, a department which, owing to the extensive settlement in the sugar-districts, and recent gold-discoveries, has become an important feature. The firm's agents in London are Messrs. Sharland & Co., 43 London Wall, E.C.

It may not be out of place to mention in connection with the Australian drug-trade that retail chemists, as well as whole-agers, near the mining districts find it profitable to cultivate business with the mining companies. A few undertake assaying-work, which is in itself profitable and leads to other business. The equipment in knowledge for such work must, of course, be wider than pharmaceutical training provides, but that training is recognised all the world over as a splendid basis for further scientific studies.

Thomason, Chater & Co.

■ The growth of this firm is a striking instance of what may be done from small beginnings. Sixteen years ago Mr T. W. Thomason purchased a retail business in South Brisbane, and, being shortly afterwards joined by Mr. H. W. Thomason and two of his brothers, other pharmacies were opened in the neighbourhood. When, a year later, Mr. A. B. Chater was made a partner, attention was given to manufacturing. By

successive steps the accommodation required has been increased, and now, in addition to five retail pharmacies, the firm have a factory and laboratory. The analytical depart-



MR. THOMASON.

MR. CHATER.

ment is in charge of Mr. A. B. Chater, F.C.S., the general management of the business being still in the hands of Mr.



A BRISBANE PHARMACEUTICAL FACTORY.

T. W. Thomason, the original founder. It may interest home readers to learn that Dugong oil is one of the things manufactured by the firm.

We may recall the fact that it is to Mr. Chater, as the representative of the Queensland Board of Pharmacy (of which he is a member) that we on this side owe indirectly recent developments in regard to reciprocity. He spent last summer in this country, and put the case for Imperial pharmaceutical reciprocity so well to the Board of Examiners and the Pharmaceutical Council that the latter saw the importance of providing a legal basis for recognition of colonial qualifications. That has been done in the draft Pharmacy Bill, and in the colonies this has been accepted as a step forward, although they are even less prepared out there than we are at home to enforce a curriculum.

No account of the wholesale drug-trade of Australia would be complete without reference to the gentleman who commercially and politically has distinguished him self amongst his fellows, and who is at the head of one of the oldest firms and largest businesses in the Commonwealth. We refer to a former member of the Victorian Government:—



THE HON. F. S. GRIMWADE.

East Indian News.

BOMBAY TRADE.—There was little to note in Bombay when the mail left, the European and native trading centres being equally quiet.

AN UP-COUNTRY ORDER.—The following items on one order to a firm in the bazaar were required up-country the week the mail left:—Five cases asafetida (250 lbs. in each case), 3,000 lbs. nux vomica, and 1,000 lbs. lemongrass oil.

PERSONAL.—Mr. R. R. Martin, of Messrs. Stearns & Co., Detroit, was in Bomhay when the mail left. We understand Messrs. Stearns contemplate establishing a wholesale agency in that city.—Mr. H. Magness-Elgar, of Cape Town, was also in Bombay, *en route* to Ceylon, *via* Madras.

AN IMPROVEMENT IN INDIGO.—For the purpose of carrying out a scheme of experimental and scientific research, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has intimated the willingness of the Bengal Government to grant 50,000r. annually for three years to the Behar Indigo-planters' Association and the Indigo Improvements Syndicate, contingent on these bodies spending from their own funds 75,000r. per annum also for three years.

ECONOMIC PRODUCTS IN CEYLON.—The annual report of the director of the Ceylon Botanic Gardens for 1900 states that there has been an increased demand for information relating to the various cinchona hybrids and the conditions of successful cultivation, and an unusually large amount of seed has been purchased (chiefly abroad) and planted during the year. Specimens of various kinds of barks from different localities in Ceylon were obtained, and these are being worked out in Europe by M. Reimers, who is devoting himself to the study of chemical and botanical questions in cinchona. The director also reports that the citronella-oil industry is in a very depressed state, and the price is now barely remunerative in consequence of over-production, adulteration, and foreign competition. The industry was formerly one of the most important minor ones in the island. To make the situation worse the Java planters have lately embarked in this industry, and by careful selection and distillation have begun to place on the market an oil which is far superior to the Ceylon oil, and which fetches a much

higher price. This is likely to lead to a further fall in the price of the Ceylon oil unless new markets can be opened (which seems unlikely), or the quality of the oil improved. With this in view the director and chemist have made during the year a thorough investigation upon the spot into the industry, and a full report will be published. The general condition of the industry affords a striking parallel to that of tea, but is distinctly worse. As regards cardamoms, the extension of cultivation continued both in Ceylon and in South India. The director concludes his report on this item with the significant remark that "the price shows signs of a considerable fall in the not very distant future." In the report of the entomologist reference is made to the "cardamom horer" or moth, which has been very troublesome in some parts of the Matale and Rangala districts. The moth tunnels into the mature stems of the cardamom-plants, making its entrance at one side, and boring either upwards or downwards, eating the pith, and causing the death of those particular stems. After the moth has vacated them the tunnels often become tenanted by ants. Another insect-pest is known as the "croton caterpillar," and last year some of the croton-oil plants suffered rather severely, repeated broods following each other in rapid succession. The pest was observed in Peradeniya only after it had reached its crisis in July. Some of the trees were sprayed with McDougall's insecticide wash, and others with a preparation of arseniate of copper. It was noticed that the former, applied in the proportion of 1 lb. to 4 gals. of water, caused the almost immediate death of the caterpillars, but experiments with the arseniate of copper were negative, owing to the fact that the caterpillars were already dying off from disease.

A Japanese Speciality.



This jelly contains following matter, in one hundred: 60 of cod-liver oil; 16.6 of milk; 4, 16 of white of egg; 8.33 of refined sugar; 10.83 of isinglass, aromatic & water.

The Jelly of Cod-liver oil must be drink in a week, because it becomes bad color and fermented; but if its flask is covered with cork, it is permanent for years.

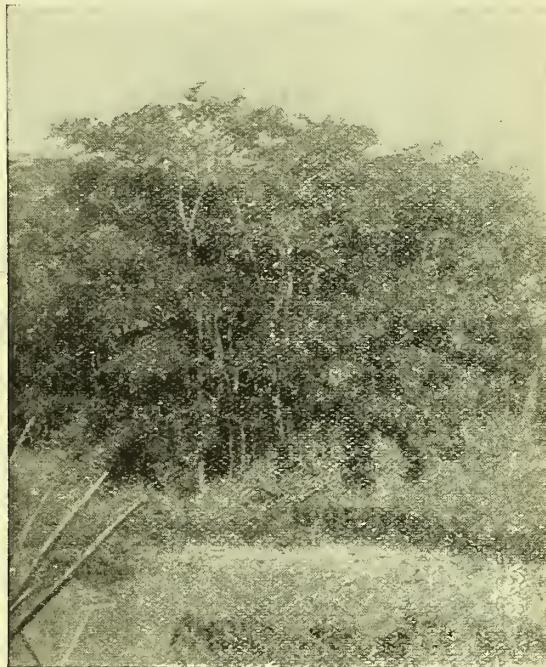
We are indebted to Mr. William Shepperson for the original of the above label. Although the English is rather quaint, we think lovers of labels will agree that in design and execution the figures of the cod and peacock are a credit to the Japanese artist.

Balsam of Peru.

How it is Gathered in Central America.

Editorial Note.—The best-known account of the collection of Peru balsam hitherto available is that supplied by Dr. Charles Dorat, of Sonsonate, Salvador, to Mr. Daniel Hanbury, and communicated by the latter to the evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain on November 4, 1863. This was afterwards published in the Society's *Transactions*, with woodcuts showing the formation of the pressing-bag in which the balsam-cloths are squeezed and how the trees are barked. These illustrations and the description have since done duty in most *materia-medica* works, and little additional information has been available except what has been conveyed in Consular reports.

THE name "Peru balsam," applied to the product which comes solely from Salvador, arose from the fact that balsam, during the Spanish occupation, was taken from Salvador first to the harbour-town of Callao in Peru, and thence



THE BALSAMAL, i.e., CLUMP OF PERU BALSAM TREES IN THE FOREST.

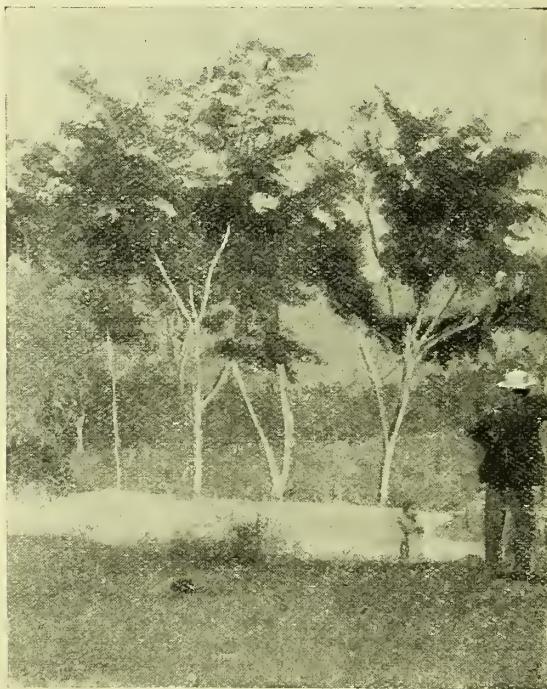
brought to Europe. In Salvador itself the designation "balsamo" is only used. By steamer, nowadays, one starts from Nicaragua and goes along the most southerly part of Salvador—La Libertad—then on to the port of Acajutla, which takes four hours to reach. The Balsam Coast is thus passed, and can be seen in its entire length and breadth. Geographically, it lies between $13^{\circ} 35'$ and $14^{\circ} 10'$ North latitude, and 89° and $89^{\circ} 40'$ West longitude. From Acajutla there is a railway to Sonsonate, the little town to which the balsam-tree owes its first scientific name—*Myrospermum sonsonatense*, and thence, through Bebedero, the railway passes through the chief balsam emporium—San Julian—to Santa Tula, or New San Salvador. This railway line makes the northern border of the chief balsam-production district. The whole district is remarkably undulated, and rises gradually from the sea-coast to a high mountain chain of volcanic origin, which forms the border of the Balsam Coast towards the interior. The imposing and active volcano Izalco is the most attractive feature of this range, and at night one often sees the glowing lava overflowing the edge of the crater.

The natural beauties of the balsam coast are very peculiar

In 1899 the German Colonial Commercial Bureau (Kolonial-Wirtschaftliches Komitee), Berlin, promoted an expedition to Central America for the purpose of inquiring into, amongst other things, the cultivation of the balsam-of-Peru tree, which had done so well at the Botanic Gardens, Victoria, Cameroons, that it was felt that more extensive culture could be attempted there, especially with the view of making Germany independent of other countries for her supplies of the balsam. Dr. P. Preuss was the scientist in charge of the expedition, and a complete account of it has been published in *Der Tropenpflanze*, the organ of the Bureau. For the photographs we are indebted to the Bureau.

and remarkable. The vegetation is not especially luxuriant, and does not point to any large quantities of rain. In the valleys, especially in the higher portion, are to be seen very stately forests, with mahogany, cedar, copal, and other large trees. The balsam-trees form a small portion of the forest. The chief form of vegetation, however, is bush with low trees, a second kind of cedar, quebracho, isolated palms, and a large number of thorny acacias. In places there are also stretches of grass, and the district becomes more of a savanna character.

The balsam-tree grows best at a height of 300 to 700 metres above the sea. Although found close to the coast, owing to seeds being washed down by the brooks from the mountains, the tree does not thrive there particularly well. The tree is found in greatest profusion near the villages Cuisnahnat and Comasagua, and the chief balsam emporium is, as already mentioned, the village San Julian. The bulk of this trade is in the hands of two German merchants who have lived there for many years. The balsam-tree grows in a wild state either solitary or in small clumps. A number of trees



YOUNG BALSAM-TREES.

The trees here represented are from ten to twelve years old. The tree on the extreme right has already been tapped, and part of it has a cloth laid on.

together is called a *balsamal*. Regular plantations are not common, but here and there one comes across a *balsamal*, which indicates that some of the trees have been planted.

The *balsam* are mostly hedged round with barbed wire. Every balsam-tree growing wild in the forest has its owner, who works it and jealously guards it. Such a tree can be recognised from a great distance by its pleasant scent.

The balsam-tree grows to about 15 to 20 metres high, seldom to 30 metres. The slender trunk is either unbranched to a height of 8 or 9 metres or it divides at 2 or 3 metres up into small upgrowing branches which spread themselves out into a light beautiful crown. The graceful overhanging branches, with their fine shining green, somewhat leathery foliage, give it its characteristic appearance, and lend it its striking form. The balsam-tree is one of the most beautiful forest-trees, but it is a slow grower, and is seldom seen in its full beauty, as the trunks are misshapen by balsam-gathering. Dr. Preuss saw the best specimens near San Salvador, and on plantations (San Isidro and Aguna) in Guatemala, but they had been planted and were never tapped.

The tree (*Toluifera Pereiræ*, Baill., or *Myroxylon Pereiræ*, Klotzsch) has insignificant white flowers with yellow anthers. The flowers are in simple clusters, which mostly stand separate in the axils of the leaves, and are not numerous. They open about February. In Jamaica a tree was seen in bloom in June. Ripe fruits are found on the tree along with flowers. The two-winged fruit hangs on a short stalk; it is on an average about 9 cm. long and 2.5 to 3 cm. wide, and contains one single seed in the point. The wings form a flying apparatus, and in falling down the fruits make a rapid circular movement in a horizontal direction with the end of the seed as a centre. They therefore remain suspended, and sink very slowly to the ground, when they are carried away to a great distance by every puff of wind. The seed is found between two hollow spaces, which contain a light-yellow clear thick fluid. The latter, under the name of "balsamito," is very much prized as a medicine for internal diseases, but is not exported. The taste is somewhat bitter; the smell differs somewhat considerably from that of Peru balsam, and is not so intense as

numerous flat yellowish protuberances of different size. The wood is a beautiful red-brown colour, and very strong. As it resists the attacks of white ants and all influences of the climate remarkably well, it is greatly prized as timber, and



PERU BALSAM TREE,

With rags about 12 feet from the ground. The light and shade of the trunk of this tree indicate that the bark has been removed and grown again.

stands higher in value than mahogany and cedar. A darker and lighter variety may be distinguished. The sap-wood is of a yellowish colour.

According to the statements of a few balsam-owners, there are two kinds of balsam-tree. One is said to have a thicker coarser bark and darker wood, and to yield more balsam than the other, which has a thinner and flatter bark and lighter wood. Dr. Preuss could not distinguish between the two varieties, but he could never obtain flowers of the variety with the thinner bark. There are great differences in opinion with regard to the productiveness of the two kinds. Some say that the thicker bark produces more balsam because it retains the heat longer, others that the thinner bark produces more because it is warmed more thoroughly and quickly by the torches. Probably small differences in the bark, foliage, and productiveness are due to the influence of soil and exposure.

When young balsam-trees attain a circumference of 1 metre tapping is commenced. They are then about ten years old. A planter in Guatemala who had a number of balsam trees which he had planted eighteen years before, informed Dr. Preuss that the average circumference was 1.20 metre. These had never been tapped, and the author came to the conclusion that on an average a fifteen-year-old tree has a circumference of 1 metre.

EXTRACTION OF THE BALSAM

necessitates a series of slow manipulations and much patience. The balsam formed as such is found neither in the bark nor in the wood, and analyses of uninjured barks could not prove a trace of balsam. Neither the fresh bark nor the fresh wood has the smell of Peru balsam. The formation of the balsam is due to mechanical wounds or heat, and to a greater degree by both combined. The author did not see any trees with mechanical wounds solely on the Balsam Coast, where they are always treated with fire; but he saw them in Guatemala, and further in a plantation near the chief town of San Salvador, and in the botanical gardens at Jamaica. In all cases a small quantity of balsam flowed out continually from the wounds. Whether it came entirely

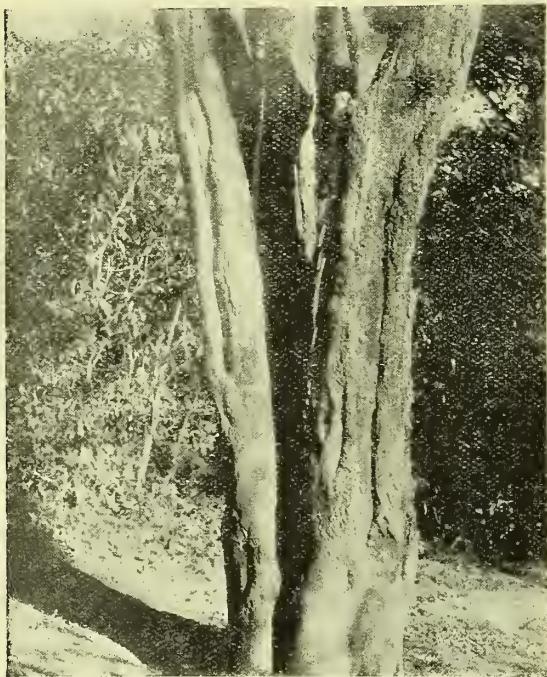


TRUNK OF PERU BALSAM TREE.

This picture shows how the tree has been bared, and the figure of the man is an index to the girth. A couple of feet above the man's head is a patch of the tree upon which a rag is fixed to absorb the balsam.

it. The leaves of the tree are irregularly pinnated, with seven to eleven leaflets, placed alternately, the webs of which contain numerous oil-cells. The bark is easily recognisable; it is more or less coarse, of a grey ground-tone, and covered with

out of the bark or also from the wood could not be determined. The tapping of a tree is carried out in the following way:—From the trunk about 20 to 30 cm. above the ground the workman carefully knocks the bark with the handle of a



PERU BALSAM TREE.

This is a very old tree. The picture shows rags placed on the trunk; also where the bark has grown on again, but irregularly; and in the original photograph the rotten places are indicated.

bush-knife or a round stone. The bark removed measures about 15 cm. wide and 25 cm. long. He loosens with his knife or finger-nail the top green layer of bark, thus exposing the yellowish inner bark. The bark is not torn off in strips. In five days some balsam usually comes from the exposed place. If this appears to promise well, it is soaked up with a cloth rag, the size of the wound, fastened by being put into cracks which are made in the bark with the point of a knife. The rags are, as a rule, old pieces of clothing, and are very dear in the district. Preference is given to uncoloured cloth, but, failing this, red, blue, &c., are also used. Dr. Preuss would not positively say that they are cleansed before use. After the first balsam is sucked up, the exposed part is treated with fire. For this purpose torches ("hachones") are used of a certain resinous wood called "chunilate," which burns continuously without giving too great a flame. The heating is carried on until the bark is warmed through, this taking about four or five minutes. The part is then left for about eight days, when balsam begins to flow again, and a piece of cloth is fastened to the wound as before. The saturated rag is renewed after several days, and this continued until no more balsam comes out. One firing seldom produces more than three rags full, but often less.

The scorched place is now deeply cut in many places with a knife, and the parts which have been too severely burnt are scraped off. The incision produces another flow of balsam after a few days. The quantity, as a rule, serves to saturate one or two pieces of cloth. This balsam is called "balsamo de contrapique" (wound balsam), whilst that extracted first after the firing is called "balsamo de panal" or "balsamo de trapo" (rag balsam). The balsam which is obtained without firing is called "taguazonte" or "tacuasonte."

If, when the "balsamo de contrapique" stops flowing, the tree is again fired, another flow results, which again fills one or two rags. The workman then scrapes off the bark, grinds it to powder, and boils it out with water, whereby the so-called "balsamo de cascara," or bark-

balsam, is obtained. It is thicker than the rag-balsam, and has a stronger odour. It contains more impurities and particles of the bark if it is not very carefully filtered, and is somewhat lower in price. Peru balsam of commerce is a mixture of certain parts of bark and rag balsams.

As soon as the bark is scraped off, the part of the trunk above it is treated in exactly the same way. The rags are, however, not put directly on to the burnt part, but to the wood which is laid bare underneath in such a way that the edges of the rags lie upon the edge of the wound-space at the top and at the sides. The balsam now exudes, especially on the under edge of the freshly worked part of the bark, and soaks into the rag which lies upon its upper edge. The wood covered with the rags is constantly moistened by the balsam. This might lead one to suppose that the balsam also exudes out of the wood, and the workmen express the opinion that the balsam comes out least from the wood, certainly more from the bark, and most of all between the bark and the wood. The author was, however, more than doubtful that balsam is formed in the wood; he rather believes that it is formed in the bark and penetrates into the wood.

The time elapsing between the burning of the bark and the exudation of the balsam, as well as the duration of the flow, varies greatly. On an average the working of a single part of the bark lasts about six weeks. The workman excoriates the tree perpendicularly, and when he can no longer reach with his arms while standing on the ground, he erects a primitive platform with posts put slantways along the trunk, and thus mounts to a height of from 6 to 7 metres. If a space of 25 cm. high is worked at a time, and a period of six weeks is necessary for this, two and a half years would be required to work a trunk 5 metres high. Consequently the exposed parts on the lower trunk are covered again with bark whilst those above are still being worked. Strong trees are tapped on several sides at the same time, but are often treated in a barbarous manner. Whenever a piece of new bark is forming which appears to be large enough for fastening on a rag, it is worked on at



PRESSING OUT THE BALSAM.

This picture shows the preparation of the press which is placed immediately over the boiler or copper resting upon the ground. Two other presses are seen hanging on a post.

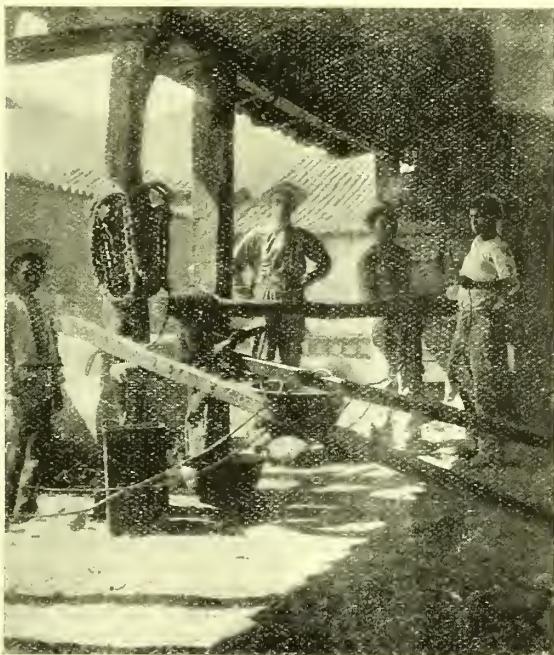
once, so that sometimes thirty and more rags are seen attached to the tree at the same time. The bottom part of the trunk becomes in this way completely misshapen, and the wood rots under the growing bark. The balsam-tree,

however, has a remarkable power of living. One comes across trunks which are completely rotten and hollow inside, while their crowns are still green and continue to produce balsam. As bark-balsam is quicker made than the "rag" kind, thoughtless and thriftless people sometimes use up the trees by the extraction of the bark-balsam only. Large parts of the bark, or even the entire bark of the tree, are tapped and at once fired, and when they have become strongly saturated with balsam, peeled off at once. This devastation is soon followed by the death of the tree.

The extraction of the balsam is carried on during the whole year, chiefly, however, in the dry months from December to April. Opinions differ greatly as to the productivity of a tree. According to some, a hundred trees will yield 500 lbs. of balsam yearly, whilst others place the amount at 300 lbs. The latter seems to be the more likely. Taking the price of a pound of Peru balsam at 7m. to 9 50m. the yearly product of a balsam-tree will be 21m. to 28 50m. A balsam-owner stated that by the bark method he obtained 12 lbs. of balsam in twenty days from fifteen trees.

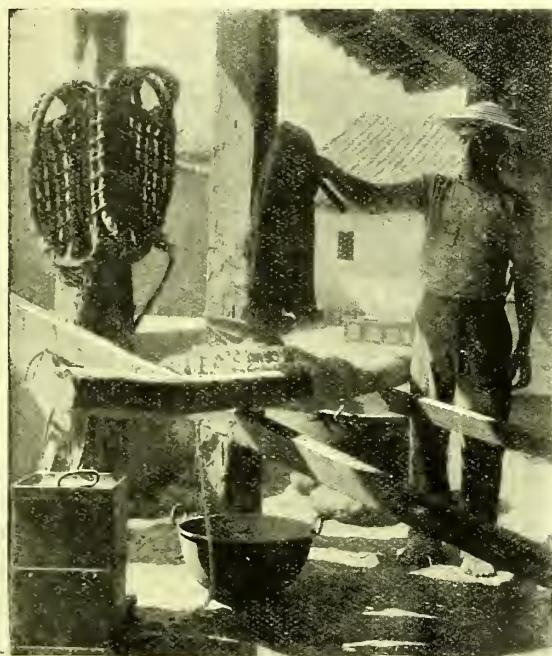
The balsam is extracted from the saturated rags when a sufficient quantity has been got together. The rags are boiled for a time with water in a large boiler, when a certain quantity of good balsam separates; and as its sp. gr. is 1 135 to 1 145, it sinks, and is obtained pure by pouring off the water. The rags are then put into a press called "prensa de balsamo," which consists of a bag of about 60 cm. long, opening lengthways at the side, composed of parallel ropes of a much-esteemed pineapple fibre fastened firmly together. Each of the ropes forms at either end a ring for the levers, by means of which the bag is pressed together. The press is first fitted with a strong lever at one end, which is put through the rings and firmly fastened with the ends to two posts or tree-trunks, about one metre above the ground. The second lever is then passed through the rings at the other end of the press, which is brought into a horizontal position with the opening upwards. A boiler is placed under the press to catch the balsam. A cloth is generally spread over the press so as to filter better; then the press is filled with rags from the boiler and drawn

semicircle is made in the horizontal plane. This requires considerable strength. The whole of the balsam is thus extracted from the rags. After the last of the balsam has been washed out of the press by pouring hot water over it,



PRESSING OUT THE BALSAM.

This picture shows how the press is twisted by means of a lever so that the balsam is squeezed out of the rags and falls into the copper.



PRESSING OUT THE BALSAM.

Filling the press with rags constitutes the second stage in the process, and this is seen in the picture.

together the whole length of the opening, the rings on the lever being pressed closely together. A semicircle is now described in the vertical plane with the free lever, then, after the press has regained a perpendicular position, another

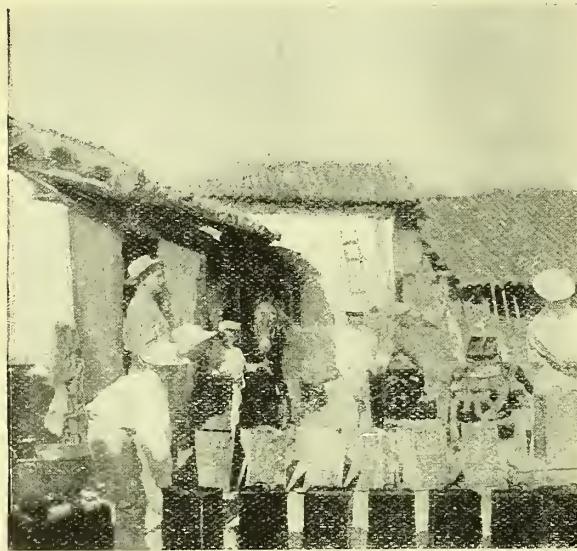
the boiler is put on the fire and its contents left for some time to boil. After it has become cold, the water with the impurities is poured off, and the remaining balsam is ready for sale to the merchants. The latter, however, before they make ready the balsam for despatch, subject it to another thorough cleansing by boiling it for several hours in iron or copper boilers. The residue of the water is in this way evaporated, and all impurities come to the surface, from which they are removed with a large skimmer. Large tin canisters, about 50 cm. high and 25 cm. wide, are filled with the balsam and closed with a screw fastener. Two canisters weigh 27 kilos., and are packed in wooden cases for exportation.

BALSAM-FARMERS.

Balsam-production is entirely in the hands of the natives, of whom the smaller number are Indians and the greater Ladinos, Indian-Spanish half-caste. The high price is a temptation to adulterations. The Ladinos are very skilful in mixing the balsam with water so that this adulteration can with difficulty be detected, especially when such goods, as is mostly the case, are offered for sale in the evenings. The merchant, however, generally knows what kind of people he has to deal with, and does not settle the business until the next day, when the water has separated from the balsam. "The merchants do not adulterate," says Dr. Preuss. The common adulterants—such as styrax, tolu balsam, &c.—would cost nearly as much as Peru balsam itself, and the merchant would scarcely risk losing his good reputation for a small gain, especially when he is certain of the fraud being at once discovered.

The district where the balsam-trees grow is not confined to Salvador. Trees are found wild in Nicaragua. When Dr. Preuss visited the coffee-districts of Mutagalpa and Imotega, situated in the interior of Nicaragua, he received in Matalalpa, under the name of "balsamo," a bottle containing a fluid the scent of which reminded him of Peru balsam, as well as a quantity of pieces of bark which were full of balsam, and were for making the bark-balsam. Both

were offered for sale by the Indians from the mountain districts. The fluid proved to be a good storax, whilst a pure Peru balsam was obtained from the small pieces of bark by Professor Thoms, Berlin. Dr. Preuss had to give up trying



PACKING FOR EXPORT.

The above picture represents the weighing of the balsam in tins, which are then closed and carried away by mules as shown.

to see the balsam-tree in Nicaragua, but a German doctor there (Dr. Rothschild) told him that he had often seen the balsam-tree in Nicaragua, but whether identical with the *Myroxylon Pereirae* he could not say.

To the foregoing Professor H. Thoms and Mr. C. Mannich added analyses of four samples: (1) Peru balsam as exported from the factory of Martin Schneider, San Julian; (2) rag balsam (balsamo de trapo), from the same factory; (3) bark balsam (balsamo de cascara); and (4) balsam made from bark brought by Dr. Preuss and extracted with ether (yield, 18.5 per cent.). The characteristics of these are shown in the following table:—

—	1	2	3	4
Sp. gr. at 15° C. ...	1.1404	1.1408	1.612	—
Cinnamene, per cent. ...	64.6	65.8	51.4	37.4
Cinnamene Ester Number	260.6	260.6	250	—
Resin, per cent.... ...	18.2	17.3	28.7	26.5

Sufficient of No 4 was not obtained for fuller examination. These results were communicated to the German Pharmaceutical Society at Berlin during the past session.

CARBOLIC SCHEDULING.—The *Laneet* notes the circular letter which has been sent to the sanitary authorities by the Local Government Board and adds:—

We believe that since this order came into operation last September, the number of cases of self-poisoning by means of carbolic acid has sensibly diminished. The total number of cases of self-poisoning by all agencies is, however, maintained, hydrochloric acid or common spirits of salts appearing to have supplanted carbolic acid as the most usual. We should not be surprised if this mineral acid has next to be placed under the same restrictions as carbolic acid as to its sale and keeping.

WHAT IS "LATTERMINT?" Mr. Bradley, Dr. Murray's associate editor of the "Oxford English Dictionary," asks this question in *Notes and Queries*. He finds in Keats' "Endymion" (iv. 1 576), "savory, latternmint, and columbines" grouped together, and he wants to know what mint is indicated, and also would be glad of any other reference to the word. Perhaps some *C. & D.* botanists can help him.

British Trade with South Africa.

THE gradually diminishing scale of the military operations in all parts of the South African colonies brings the opening-up of trade within a more reasonable distance than has appeared at any time since the autumn of 1899. Even if the total cessation of hostilities cannot be hoped for at present, the almost perfect system of guarding the railway which is coming into force under Lord Kitchener's régime lends itself to the gradual repopulation of the Rand, and the resumption of business and trade in the great mining districts of the Transvaal and Natal. With this in view for the near future, our correspondent at the Cape sends us a very exhaustive résumé of the condition of the drug and allied trades in Cape Colony and Natal, with many valuable hints and suggestions for exporters and manufacturers in this country.

Indiarubber Goods.—The bulk of the rubber goods in use in South Africa are of British manufacture. German-made rubber succumbs to the climatic conditions prevailing here, and the trade shuns it in favour of the higher-priced article produced elsewhere. American white rubber answers very well, but as the trade is somewhat prejudiced against its use it is not so much in demand as its durability and keeping qualities would imply. There is a market here for an English-made hot-water bag and douche arrangement combined, boxed in wood, with the various vulcanite fittings complete; the indiarubber hot-water bag, when the article is in use as a douche, acting as the container. There are one or two American varieties on the market, and, as the wholesale price for this line at the Cape is 7s. 6d., less the trade discount of 10 per cent., it is to be presumed that they cost not more than \$1 in America. They are illustrated in most American catalogues.

Mineral-water Materials.—There are a few makers of good mineral waters in South Africa, and they all use the best materials of their kind. The essences are invariably of British manufacture, thanks to the unremitting attention of such firms as Stevenson & Howell, and Hay. Bottles (Codd's patent) are nearly all of British manufacture. Sulphuric acid and carbonic-acid gas come through from Germany in small quantities, whilst American bicarbonate of soda is pretty freely handled in Cape Town itself. The American soda can be landed at Table Bay at a lower figure than Brünner, Mond & Co.'s mineral-water speciality; but there is little demand for the American at centres outside Cape Town. The demand for syphons is not large. Those in use are purchased in London, and are probably of French manufacture.

Packed Proprietary Goods.—It is a question if South African firms making a feature of this class of business do all they should in filling the requirements of the local trade. There is an anxiety to cater for local buyers amongst certain houses, and these are making an effort; but to a resident, who can take an unbiased view, there appears to be a weak point somewhere. Nobody can entertain the idea of, say, America beating us in the general get-up of a package or in the quality of the contents for the money. All that remains to be done in South Africa is to bring out the right kind of goods, not shoddy or badly-packed lines, and put a reasonable price on them—not necessarily a cut one—for the market is here. It will surprise many to hear that the American firms invariably get better prices for their packed goods than the British. Unless the order is an exceptionally large one, the American does not cut, nor make any pretence of so doing. In spite of this, one American firm does an exceptionally large trade out here. As a rule (the writer is aware of one exception), the British representative does not carry a range of samples, and the failure of our manufacturers to display their wares to advantage is a further drawback to good results. Dutch medicines, special to South Africa, are packed locally in considerable quantities, the prices ranging from 2s. 6d. to 4s. per dozen. The more up-to-date druggist is now importing these direct from Hamburg at prices so ridiculously low that it would not be advisable for British houses to pay the slightest attention to their output. As in the manufacture of cheap glass dispensing and other bottles used in pharmacy, competition is out of the question.

Chemicals, Drugs, Tinctures.—With the exception of the Rand, I do not think there are more German chemicals used in South Africa than, say, in England, trade for trade. The drugs (except packed herbs and certain other lines of the same nature special to Germany and Germans) are all shipped from England. The pills, capsules, and fluid extracts coming in from America have been already referred to. No importation of importance of American fruit-essences has taken place of recent years.

Tinctures from Germany continue to reach the Cape, but in insignificant quantities. In Natal a better market awaits the German manufacture, and the reason of this is not far to seek. Natal has a Food and Drugs Act, which, like its Poison Act, is such a masterpiece of literature that nobody can make it out or understand it properly. One of the officials at Durban recently explained that he could make neither head nor tail of it, and until it is remodelled nothing can be done. I do not wish to imply that all German tinctures are not standardised products; but when an offer is made to place goods on at Hamburg almost at one's own prices, one can scarcely be blamed for having doubts as to the quality. After all, Germans are not in business for fun any more than we are. British exporters who are at some pains to explain everything in connection with the exportation of spirituous preparations so fully are to be admired. Just what the goods will cost landed in the buyer's store is easily arrived at, and the abolishing of such pettiness as "bonding," "shipping," and "packages," is appreciated generally by buyers in this country. In American fluid extracts there has been no appreciable increase of trade during the past year.

Soaps of the high-class grades handled by pharmacists and druggists are of English manufacture chiefly. The *élite* of the Cape and Natal appear to think twice before paying long prices for a cake of soap. French soaps are certainly very nice, but they are very costly. German lines are not too conspicuous, and the higher grades of their varieties are not in much demand, while the cheaper kinds are subject to competition by American-made stuff. The American lines of cheap soap tablets have no serious competitors, and it would be well for some of our manufacturers to pay closer attention to the South African market. Samples placed before buyers here should comprise all grades, from the cheaper highly-perfumed tablet to the very best sorts.

Druggists' Glassware, including Sundries.—Shelf or shop bottles of British manufacture are not holding their own in South Africa. It was noticed in more than one pharmacy during a recent trip through the territories now open that all the bottles and jars were of German origin. The words "Ung. Jodod." are enough to institute an inquiry. The American shelf-bottle is cheap, elegant, and appeals somewhat to the colonial mind. It is true that the glass is not so good, but it answers the purpose. Sets of these bottles are held in stock by the wholesalers, but it would be difficult to locate a set of English-manufactured bottle, ready for immediate delivery.

Dispensing-bottles from Hamburg are in evidence almost in every town. These may be products of the German Empire, or may originate in Holland or France. But, wherever manufactured, competition from our side seems out of the question.

Fine cut-glass ware is shipped from England, so are such lines as atomisers, syringes, and similar goods, but it is a matter of difficulty to say positively where they are manufactured. The fine cut-glass ware used in the "holiday trade" is most probably of British production; but the other goods, I believe, hail from the Continent in the first instance, and, as in a number of other lines of merchandise, the exporters merely act as such.

Taking the list of druggists' sundries handled in the ordinary course of trade, it behoves British exporters to be on the look-out. Competition from German houses must be reckoned with, not forgetting that which may crop up more forcibly from America at any moment. There has been no increase in purchases from either of the countries named for the past two years on account of the war; but after the war a determined bid on the part of our competitors is anticipated.

In Perfumes and Toilet-preparations. French products hold the market. Only a few British firms make any attempt to compete, and they fail. In first-class perfumery on this market British goods offer no comparison. Such

firms as Roger & Gallet, Piver, and Houbigant, are a long way ahead with their products. What the English understand as fine perfumes come in for the middle-class demand out in Africa, and they are generally offered alongside the French second grades.

For liquid toilet preparations British and French about share the market, the presence of the American products being scarcely felt. In face-powders and the like, including perfume sachets, the French score, the Germans coming an easy second.

Instruments.—The trade in surgical and veterinary instruments at the Cape and Natal is necessarily of a limited character. It is pleasing to note, however, that those sold are of British manufacture. The same cannot be said of dental instruments, which continue to arrive from the States. Several local firms carry a fair range of English-made dental goods, though, and what may be termed the ordinary demand from the interior is filled with these.

Cotton Wool, Lint, and Dressings.—German cotton wool and lint is in evidence here, but the bulk of the demand is filled by British houses. The 6d and 1s. retail boxes are mainly from Germany. Antiseptic gauzes and dressings are supplied by our exporters, and bandages known of the "Red Cross" variety—imitations of those manufactured by a well-known London house—come in from Germany at intervals.

For Compressed Drugs, Pills and Capsules imported in bulk for dispensing purposes in the fullest sense of the term, there is little or no demand, except for tablets of pot. chl. and the voice variety. "Tabletoids" have it nearly all their own way where compressed drugs are indicated. An isolated instance of wilful substitution crops up now and then. The writer was recently offered something "just as good" in the Cape Peninsula; indeed, the druggist—who held British papers, by the way—pretended he did not know "tabletoids" meant B., W. & Co. He was enlightened, and his stuff (probably German) returned.

A quantity of pills and capsules reach South Africa from the States, and, although prices are against them, the turnover is on the increase. The American pill-catalogues mailed to South Africa are excellent productions in every way, and British pill manufacturers might do worse than follow by making a move in this and other ways. Large quantities of pills, chiefly pearl-coated, are produced locally, so are capsules, but there still remains a demand that British makers would do well to pay attention to. Chemists' confectionery is in the hands of the British.

Boxes, and Tin and Wooden Containers generally.—Chip pill, and powder boxes are for the most part of German manufacture, and, as in the glass-bottle business, home manufacturers cannot be recommended to pay any great attention to this class of trade, as the Germans are apparently prepared to work for nothing here. The trade in tin containers is about equally divided between ourselves and the Germans, but all the better-class kinds reach South Africa from England.

Cape Drugs.

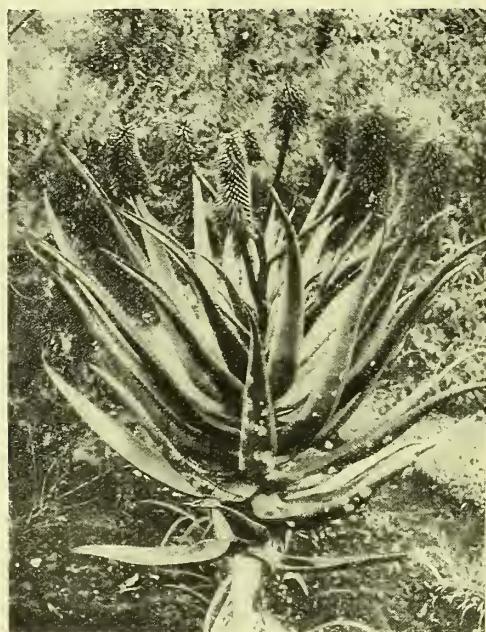
Notes by our Cape Representative on a few of the Principal Drugs produced in Cape Colony.

THE exports of huchu from South Africa in 1898 and 1899 were valued at 2,038*l.* and 2,566*l.* respectively. An increase, however slight, is noticeable, but the Americans are dropping the use of the drug gradually, and as they are the greatest consumers it is anticipated that the figures will fall within the next few years. The collection of the leaves remains in Dutch hands, for gathering huchu is a work congenial to the Boer idea of how things should be done. He takes his natives, puts them on the gathering, while he takes up a position near by with pipe alight, and eventually falls asleep. He returns home in a few hours, and "that's all over, work done for the day." About 3*d.* per lb. is paid for buchu by the trader who sends it to the coast for shipment.

As to the production of aloes there are diverse opinions. It is generally thought a better quality would realise higher prices than those now in evidence for ordinary Cape aloes, and it was with this view that Mr. S. A. Deacon, of Herhertsdale, near Mossel Bay, turned his attention to the industry

and placed "Crown" aloes on the English market, the prices for which gradually declined till they were almost as low as those procurable for Boer aloes. The "Crown" aloes, made from *Aloe ferox* or medicinal aloe, has not, therefore, met with much success on the London market, and I believe the maker will next turn his attention to Paris, with more encouragement it is to be hoped.*

The picture reproduced is that of *Aloe rupestris*, Bkr., indigenous to the west coast generally, and Namaqualand principally. Commercially speaking it is of no interest, the abundance of



ALOE RUPESTRIS, BKR.

sap found in the more southern varieties being absent, but, as will be observed, it is very dense with flower, and the native version of its medicinal value is that while it provides only small quantities of juice what there is does not gripe as compared with the drug from *A. ferox*.

Years ago there was a demand for Cape saffron, chiefly among the Malay population, who used it for cooking-purposes. It is obtained from *Lyperia crocea*, Eckl. The imported article, or true saffron, has now quite displaced this substitute, and is retailed at 4s. 6d. per oz.

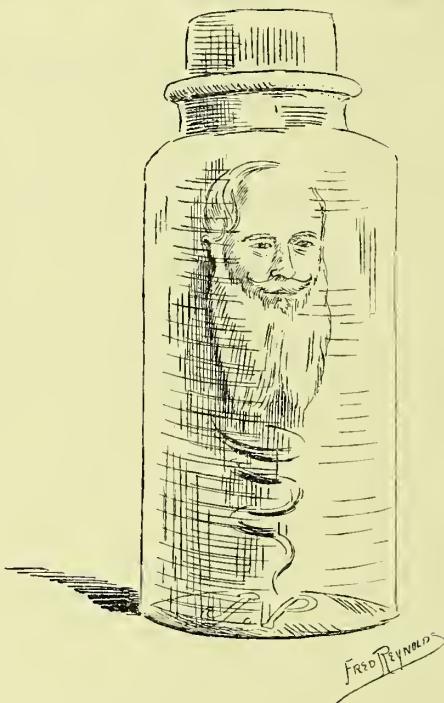
The climate and other conditions along the littoral border of the Cape Colony are so admirably suited to the cultivation of the olive, that it comes as a surprise to find that no commercial value is attached to it or its products. Of recent years the importation of the olive has been restricted, coming as it does within the scope of the law intended to keep phylloxera at bay, but seeing that the pest continued to play havoc, and other means had to be taken to stamp it out, it is somewhat difficult to understand why existing stringent regulations should not be withdrawn. Two French phylloxera experts, when asked recently what struck them most forcibly in connection with fruit in South Africa said: "Mais certainement, comment diable ne cultivez vous pas l'Olivier par milliers." Much the same opinion was expressed by an

* When the Crown aloes was first brought to the London market its fine golden appearance and other characteristics were taken as indicative of identity with hepatic aloes, especially as it was said to come from Uganda. That alone accounted for the high price (102s. 6d. per cwt.) paid at first. The price has since declined simply because the aloe is Cape aloe, and the outlet for that is the continent of Europe, where an opaque aloe has hitherto not been liked; but should experience prove the Crown aloe to be more active than the more roughly made native article it may create a market for itself. We understand that the Crown Aloes Refining Company, of which Mr. Deacon is manager, can produce between 300 and 400 lbs. a month.—EDITOR.

Italian who spent some months in the more southern districts of the colony.

The cultivation of the olive, however, must not be left to the Cape Dutch, although it requires but little attention, excepting at the gathering and pressing time, but to a more far seeing people who do not mind waiting a few years for definite and certain results. Olive oil of inferior quality is sold for 10s. per gal.; and a mixture consisting principally of cotton-seed oil fetches 6s. 6d. per gal. under the name of salad oil, obviously, then, olives would pay the grower better than wine-making, for which about 50s. per league (of 127 gals.) is paid by the merchant. No doubt the selection of the varieties best suited calls for serious consideration and care, some being more liable to the ravages of insects, &c., than others. I notice in the Botanical Gardens at Capetown that the Nevadillo negro variety is freely grown and dispersed, and this is generally understood the most suitable for the Cape. Perhaps now that the vine is ceasing to occupy so much Government attention, something may be done by the way of setting the initiative by planting and experimenting for the edification of the new-comer who might be tempted to grow olives, and to whom the experience thus gained would prove invaluable.

Pharmaceutical Fauna.



Pater Pharmaceuticus.

Meaning thereby "father of the council," which this octogenarian species was once styled. Comes of a long-lived race, and is still regarded by the experts as var. *juvenis*. For several generations it had a high perch in the aviary at Bloomsbury, but the Pata bird took it, and now it roosts at Dover, but takes occasional flights to town. In the more recent visits it has been noted that it has become beautifully crested on the upper lip, and this circumstance has suggested the variety name *rejuvenis*. Is not more fond of A Bottle than of the rest of the genus.

"THE ART OF DISPENSING" (ED. VI).—The book will certainly be helpful to anyone who will study it.—Professor WILLIS G. GREGORY, Buffalo, N. Y.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

The Supplemental Charter

granted by King Edward VII. to the Pharmaceutical Society is said to be the first little transaction of the kind performed by the new monarch. I note that it cost the Society 102*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* in fees. Whether his Majesty gets this payment for pocket-money, or whether some officer or official intercepts it as a perquisite, I do not know, but I am told it does not come into the national revenue. The history of royal charters is almost the history of the English Constitution: they were the direct ancestors of Acts of Parliament. The Norman and Plantagenet kings were kept as straight as it was possible to keep unscrupulous men by means of charters, but the astute rulers who followed John sold liberty to the nation at the highest price they could get for the article. Edward III. is said to have "confirmed" the Great Charter fourteen times, and always for a consideration. Elizabeth began to charter commercial companies, and the Stuarts ran this business for all it was worth. Under them trading monopolies grew to be a scandal and a danger.

Corporations

must be legally authorised in some way if they are to hold property and to have the right of suing and being sued. Voluntary associations for the promotion of moral, political, or other purposes are, of course, legal, but as their members are liable to constant change, and in time must die out, it is clear that they could not hold property in perpetuity. Hence the necessity of creating an entity separate from the individuals. Indeed, an unauthorised association of persons acting as a corporation has been held in the courts to have been guilty of invasion of the royal prerogative. There are some very old corporations, however, which hold their position "by prescription." They have existed as corporations "for a time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," and in these cases the law has presumed that there must have been something equivalent to a charter at some time. The Corporation of the City of London is the most prominent of these unchartered libertines. The Companies Acts, by which trading corporations are now usually created, have seriously damaged the royal business in charters, which are now only granted to municipalities, societies (like the Pharmaceutical), colleges, and such-like bodies; and even these are not granted by the Crown independently, for by an Act of 1871 it was provided that no such charter is valid until, after approval by the King in Council, it has been laid before Parliament for at least thirty days.

The Improper Motion

so cleverly reviewed in verse in last week's *C. & D.* cannot long remain "mysterious." "The virtuous Vice and the pure President" are both among the Council candidates this year, and with every desire to retain their services they can hardly get through the campaign without giving some sort of a definition of what they regard as "an improper motion." If it means, as I expect, merely a motion with which they are not in sympathy, even these exalted gentlemen will have to climb down. The era of deadly unanimity in the Pharmaceutical Council has, I hope, passed; I am inclined to think that what the Irish call a "discussion with sticks" is preferable to that. If Mr. Glynn-Jones's motion was so obviously an improper one, and not merely an inconvenient one, what more effective method of dealing with it could be devised than that of publishing it?

In any case sitting on the valve is the worst possible process of dealing with a runaway engine.

Medical Arrogance

is smartly and severely castigated in an article entitled "Doctors in Hospitals" in the *Nineteenth Century* for April. The writer (Mr. Burford Rawlings) has evidently learned in suffering what he teaches in this essay, and others who have had to work alongside of the profession in the management of medical institutions will feel towards him the gratitude which the Bishop felt to the costermonger when the latter put into expressive English what the right reverend father would have been glad to say. Mr. Rawlings's principal object is to insist that the business management of all great hospitals must be entirely in the hands of laymen. The medical staff, he argues, has no claim on these institutions on account of the services it renders. "So far from the hospitals being indebted to the profession, the obligation the profession owes to them is immeasurably greater." They get their training at them, and their reputations are made by them. Mr. Rawlings quotes from a medical writer that "if patients failed to present themselves in sufficient number the schools would find it necessary to pay them to come"; and in reviewing the advertising value of a hospital appointment he states that a physician of repute lately offered 1,000 guineas to the funds of one of these institutions if he could be placed on the staff. The lay workers of hospital committees, he declares, are content to carry on their labours out of sight, and are not less disposed to accord, than the medical workers are to demand, the post of honour. He wishes to leave to the latter the unfettered exercise of strictly medical functions, but the gulf between the lay and the medical mind is too impassable, and the arrogance of the latter too great, to allow of successful co-operation.

The Trade of the Country

as judged by the returns of the Board of Trade for the past quarter, is not in a healthy condition. Imports are more in the quarter by nearly 4 per cent., and exports less by nearly 2 per cent. This statement is not necessarily alarming, but it gets worse when the details are resumed. The excess of imports over exports is merely the profit resulting from capital invested abroad, and is an indication of wealth. But at present there is good reason to believe that the growing disparity between the two accounts is the result of American purchase of British securities, as well as the repayment of British loans on American undertakings. In other words, our investments abroad are being examined. One million of the increased imports in March was due to sugar, and nearly as much to wheat, both of which have been bought in abnormal quantities in anticipation of possible duties. Another characteristic of the figures is that while foodstuffs are being bought more largely, the imports of raw materials for manufactures are diminishing. Lastly, it has to be noticed that the exports for March would have shown, not a 2-per-cent., but a 10-per-cent., decline if it had not been for an enormous and quite inexplicable alleged increase of nearly 2½ millions in the value of new ships exported. Restricted trade and heavy taxation are evidently what we have to look forward to in the immediate future.

Imperial Pharmaceutical Reciprocity.

"Melbourne's" criticism of my remark that "it would be a pity to carry out the scheme [of imperial reciprocity] until every section of the Empire is ready to adopt it" is no doubt well founded. It must, of course, be admitted that when the statutory power is obtained those colonies which are fit and willing to join in a reciprocal scheme ought not to be required to wait until all the rest are ready. Still, if I may paraphrase my previous expression, I would say that it will also be a pity when that day comes if every section of the British Empire is not fit and willing to associate in this general pharmaceutical federation.

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Editorial Comments.

Photographic Poisons.

MOST of the photographic journals are at present referring more or less inaccurately to the sale of poisons consequent upon the recent decisions in Dublin regarding the sale of poisonous photographic chemicals by photographic dealers who are not qualified under the Pharmacy Acts. Those cases interfere but slightly with the photographic-chemical trade, nevertheless one of our photographic contemporaries treats the poisons law as an "antiquated" provision. "It was not foreseen in 1868," he tells us, "that photography would have grown to the extent it has, or such poisons as are used in that art would have been exempted." A quite superficial study of the history of poison legislation in the United Kingdom would have shown this oracle that the very fact that poisons are used in the arts has been considered excellent reason for restricting

their sale. Thus the Arsenic Act was passed seventeen years before the Pharmacy Act, and the Sale of Poisons (Ireland) Act is prior to and distinct from the first Irish Pharmacy Act. It is remarkable that the Legislature should in regard to Great Britain and Ireland on three distinct occasions—viz., in 1868, 1875, and 1890—have extended the prior provisions of the Acts to include qualification and registration of the sellers of the poisons. This alone sufficiently refutes the contention that the laws regulating the sale of poisons are antiquated. That is becoming a parrot cry. It originated with the astute gentleman who has so cleverly engineered the agency case, and our photographic contemporary appears to have been inoculated with the virus. But there is really no need for photographic alarm; those who follow the black art have not the slightest difficulty in getting all the photographic chemicals they require from the most common mart for photographic goods—the registered chemist and druggist. This is, we believe, the fact, taking the country as a whole. There is no evidence that the public suffers inconvenience by having to go to the statutory source for the few photographic chemicals which are scheduled as poisons. It is only a few dealers who find that the law does not suit them who complain. It would be absurd to take such people too seriously. Their grievance is quite microscopic, for in Great Britain there are but two scheduled photographic chemicals which are used to a large extent—viz., potassium cyanide and mercuric chloride. The former is scarcely ever required by the amateur, only workers in the collodion wet-plate process use it, and they have no difficulty in obtaining what they require. Mercuric chloride is used very largely as an intensifying agent. In the solid state the sale of mercuric chloride is governed by the regulations of Part I. of the Poison-schedule, but as it is mostly sold for photographic purposes in solution it comes within the designation of "a preparation" of mercuric chloride, and so falls into the second part of the schedule. Even although ammonium sulphocyanide and potassium oxalate were in Great Britain, as in Ireland, treated as scheduled poisons that would not hurt photographers in the slightest, seeing that they are obtainable from photographic chemists. We are pleased to note that all the photographic journals have not lost their heads on the question. *Photography* especially exhibits that wholesome respect for the law which is, after all, the basis of British freedom. Photographic chemists throughout the country will find this an excellent opportunity of educating an intelligent class of their customers in regard to the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts. We need public backing in regard to legislation touching upon the Pharmacy and Poison Acts. There is too little appreciation by the public of the fact that the principles underlying these Acts have been created by the public representatives and not by chemists and druggists, who are erroneously supposed to have made for themselves a monopoly. What chemists and druggists have done, at great expense and trouble, is to qualify themselves as the law requires, and having fulfilled this obligation they are entitled to the common justice of protection from unqualified dealers, who break the law and endanger the safety of the public by dealing in articles whose sale is restricted to persons registered under the Acts.

The Most Popular Pill.

THE consumption of pills by the Anglo-Saxon race is known to be enormous. We do not know where the consumption is greatest, whether the United Kingdom, the United States, or

Australasia bears off the palm for pill-capacity. Some may remember that eleven years ago we were assisted by subscribers in forming an estimate as to the daily consumption of all kinds of pills in the British Isles, and the computation came out at 5,643,961, equal to 178 tons yearly, allowing 3 gr. to each pill. That was not an over-estimate by any means. Recently we became curious in regard to the consumption of Blaud's pills, which are known to be taken to an appalling extent by the working classes, and, in order to get a basis for calculation, we on this occasion appealed to manufacturers, most of whom were good enough to give us, in confidence, figures which have enabled us to arrive at a fairly satisfactory total. This we find to be at least 64 tons annually of the simple Blaud's pill, and not counting various combinations, capsules of Blaud's pill, what may be made by retailers, nor pills exported. Allowing 25 per cent. more for all these, and the 5-gr. pill as the size generally made, it appears that no fewer than 268 millions of Blaud's pills are consumed annually in the British Isles. There is no other pill made which comes near this, although the manufacturers who have written to us are agreed that the half-dozen leading purgative pills taken together would make a bigger total than the Blaud. The most interesting fact about this consumption is that it is scarcely twenty-one years since the pill began to be prescribed in this country; for although Blaud's pill was known and much used on the Continent sixty years ago, it was then exclusively, and remains, a proprietary article. Two processes were given for making the pill in the *Journal de Pharmacie* of March, 1841, and Mr. Jacob Bell had a translation of that article inserted in the second number of the *Pharmaceutical Journal*. This translation became a much-read article in the early eighties when dispensers had to meet all sorts of prescription vagaries in respect to the pill; some ordered sodium carbonate, others sodium bicarbonate, and others the corresponding potassium salts. The original, or 1841, formula contained iron sulphate and potassium carbonate, which were heated with honey and other ingredients added to mass. When British doctors began to prescribe the pills to be made fresh by the gross, two theories as to compounding them were predominant—(1) that the pills should contain ferrous sulphate and the alkaline carbonate as far as possible undecomposed, so that the interaction of the salts might occur in the stomach or intestines, and (2) since such interaction is impossible owing to interference of gastric acid, let it occur under the best conditions, and exhibit a pill of ferrous carbonate. The latter view is the one which the British Pharmacopoeia has adopted, and a much-debated point has thus been quietly settled.

One of the most peculiar circumstances in connection with the popularising of Blaud's pills is that we owe it all to medical practitioners, and chiefly those in Scotland and the North of England. They began by prescribing them for anaemia in women, and the prescriptions were so frequent that most chemists and druggists about 1882 to 1885 began to stock the pills. Doctors tired of writing prescriptions for them, and simply told their patients to get a gross or two of Blaud's pills, and begin taking one three times a day, increasing until a score or more were taken thrice daily. Thus the popularity of the pills spread, especially in those districts of the country where textile industries are situated by far the largest consumers of the pills being the young women of the working classes in Scotland and the North of Ireland, Lancashire and Yorkshire coming next, and the West of England last. The pills are used primarily as a hematinic, for in this respect they fulfil the late Sir Andrew Clark's doctrine that anaemia of young women in this country is due to toxins arising from a constipated condition of the

bowels, and these toxins destroy the red blood-corpuscles. The iron combination is an antidote to the toxins, and helps to re-establish healthy action of the bowels. The pills are also employed as a "female regulator," and they have practically displaced the old-fashioned steel drops. The most regrettable matter about the popularisation of the pills, so far as pharmacy is concerned, is the insane cutting of prices which has attended it. From the outset it was considered that the pills should be charged a low price, and 2s. 6d. per gross was the average charged by retail as far back as 1885. Then cutting began and the coated pills were sold at 1s. per gross by 1890. Now the pills are to the drug-stores what sugar is to grocers and calico to the drapers—the catch article. The lowest price we have seen is that of Magor (Limited), who in a recent cheap-sale circular had this line—

"Blaud's Patent Pills, 3d. per gross box; 3 for 8½d."

This is playing it very low down for pharmacy, if it is pharmacy. The thing that obtains in the retail also holds good for the manufacturers, several of whom compete with each other so that the coated pills have been sold at less than 1d. per gross. These manufacturers know better than we do what the object of this cutting is, but we cannot help regretting it. After all pills are pharmaceutical products, the compounding of which requires skill and knowledge, and the more the products are cheapened the greater must be the tendency to entrust the manufacture to the cheapest of unskilled labour. That is sure, ere long, to bring a reaction in favour of higher pharmacy and better prices. If there is one thing that the public hate it is cheap physic, at least, when life and death depend upon it; and when that condition arises they go to the man whose reputation for care and purity is best, and price becomes a secondary consideration.

Poisonings in 1899.

If it be true, as Buckle asserts, that one unfailing indication of the progress of civilisation is to be found in the population statistics of a country, then the annual report of the Registrar-General should be a document of considerable interest to everyone. Its cramped statistical style certainly does not invite much perusal, and except for a comparison of the marriage-rate, birth-rate, and the death-rate with those of previous years, little interest appears to be taken in the production by that marvellous being—the man in the street. There are several pages in the report, however, which are more interesting to chemists and druggists perhaps than to any other class. These fall under the heading of "Violent Deaths." The total number of deaths registered in England and Wales during 1899 was 581,799. Of these 12,965 are characterised as "violent," the subdivisions being "Deaths by accident or negligence," "By suicide," "By murder," and "By manslaughter." In the first two of these divisions "Poisons and poisonous vapours" are responsible for 636, and under the second category 521 suicides ended their existence. These taken in conjunction with three murders (by strychnia, prussic acid, and "attempted abortion with drugs" respectively) and one manslaughter (by attempt to procure abortion with drugs), make a total of 1,161 deaths attributable in some measure to so-called "poisons," against 1,114 during the year 1898; but, as we have previously explained, the smaller proportion of the substances so-called are scheduled poisons, and many of the rest never reach the chemist's shop, notably lead and ptomaines; while poisoning with anaesthetics (97 during the year) must be laid to the charge of medical or dental practitioners. In the following table we detail the poisons and poisonous vapours which are enumerated as the cause of death.

		Negligence and Accidents		Suicides	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Acetic acid	...	...	—	—	1
Acid (kind not stated)	...	...	—	1	2
Aconite	...	—	—	1	1
Alcohol	...	5	4	—	—
Ammonia	...	5	11	6	5
Anæsthetics:—					
Chloroform	...	43	25	—	—
Chloroform and ether	...	—	2	—	—
Ether	...	5	4	—	—
Kind not stated	...	12	2	—	—
Nitrous-oxide gas	...	2	2	—	—
Antimony	...	—	—	—	1
Arsenic	...	1	2	2	—
Belladonna	...	2	3	2	2
Benzol	...	—	—	—	1
Berries (poisonous), privet	...	2	3	—	—
Bichromate of potash	...	1	—	1	—
Bromide of potassium	...	1	—	—	—
Bryony	...	1	—	—	—
Calabar-beans	...	1	—	—	—
Camphor	...	1	—	—	—
Carbolic acid	...	24	21	75	92
Carbon monoxide	...	3	4	—	—
Carbonic-acid gas	...	9	—	—	—
Carburetted hydrogen	...	—	—	—	1
Castor-oil beans	...	1	—	—	—
Chloral	...	3	2	4	—
Chloride of zinc	...	—	—	1	—
Chlorodyne	...	6	3	2	1
Chloroform (not for operation)	...	6	3	—	1
Coal-gas	...	19	6	3	2
Cocaine	...	—	—	—	1
Creosote	...	1	—	—	—
Cyanide of potassium	...	1	—	19	1
Dandelion-flowers	...	1	—	—	—
Digitalis	...	2	—	—	—
Fish, poisonous	...	3	8	—	—
Food, improper	...	6	3	—	—
Foul air	...	2	—	—	—
Fruit, unripe	...	1	—	—	1
Fumes, gas	...	7	6	—	—
Fumes, kiln	...	3	—	—	—
Fumes, sulphur	...	2	—	—	—
Gas (kind not stated)	...	—	1	—	—
Hydrochloric acid	...	8	3	22	21
Hydrofluoric acid	...	1	—	—	—
Iodine	...	1	—	—	1
Jeyes' fluid	...	—	—	—	—
Lead	...	93	14	—	—
Liniment	...	3	—	1	—
Lotion	...	—	—	2	2
Mercuric chloride	...	2	—	—	—
Mercury	...	2	—	—	—
Mushrooms	...	2	1	—	—
Narcotic (kind not stated)	...	—	—	—	1
Nitric acid	...	1	1	6	1
Oil, camphorated	...	1	—	—	—
Oil of juniper	...	—	—	—	1
Opium, laudanum, morphia	...	57	29	45	24
Opodeloc...	...	1	—	—	—
Overdose of medicine	...	—	4	—	—
Oxalic acid	...	2	4	19	20
Paraffin	...	5	—	—	—
Paraldehyde	...	1	—	—	—
Pennyroyal	...	—	1	—	—
Permanganate of potash	...	1	—	—	—
Phosphorus, matches	...	1	4	3	11
Potash, caustic	...	—	1	—	—
Prussic acid, oil of almonds	...	3	1	26	3
Ptomaines	...	28	21	—	—
Sewer-gas	...	8	1	—	—
Silver solution	...	—	—	1	—
Smoke	...	—	1	—	—
Soda, caustic	...	2	—	—	—
Strychnia, nux vomica	...	6	2	5	13
Sulphuretted hydrogen	...	1	—	—	—
Sulphuric acid	...	2	—	5	—
Turpentine	...	—	1	—	—
Verm-in-killer	...	—	—	6	4
Water-hemlock	...	—	—	1	—
Weed-killer	...	—	—	1	—
Kind not stated	...	16	6	28	17

An analysis of the foregoing shows that the fatalities fall into the following classes:—

	Deaths.
Unscheduled poisons purchasable by retail	386
Scheduled poisons	338
Lead or industrial poisoning	107
Anæsthetics	97
Foods	87
Gases	79

It is well to bring out these figures, because statisticians with superficial vision are apt to lay the total 1,161 deaths from poisoning at the door of those registered under the Pharmacy Act. It is as well to be ready with the proper reply. Carbolic acid maintains its position as the arch-poison; the total number of deaths from the acid during 1899 was 212, compared with 206 in 1898. The scheduling of phenol and its homologues only came into force in September, 1900, so that the effect of this course cannot be fairly judged until the present year's statistics are available. So far the weekly poisoning reports given in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* show that a substantial decrease in deaths by the arch-poison may be expected. The popularity of hydrochloric acid as a medium for suicide is noticeable. By means of this acid 43 suicides occurred, as against 39 with oxalic acid, an article much more used domestically, and from which more fatalities would arise were its sale not safeguarded to a large extent by chemists. The mineral acids and ammonia are still largely employed for suicide, while poisonings by means of drugs that are on the first part of the Poisons Schedule are so few in number as to be infinitesimal. Out of the total number of fatalities recorded only 26 can be ascribed to strychnia and nux vomica (18 suicides), the greater number of these probably being due to the necessity for supplying the public with vermin-killer, and consequent diversion from its legitimate use. Taken all in all, the report is a marvellous testimony to the careful and conscientious manner in which those registered under the Pharmacy Act exercise the important trust imposed upon them by the State, and this is the best answer to those who are endeavouring for purely personal ends to restore unchecked sale of poisons. The very fact that more harm comes from half-a-dozen articles that are handled by oilmen and tradesmen of that class than from all the scheduled poisons is a splendid proof of the benefits of scheduling.

DOCTORS' SHOPS.

The Glasgow doctors' memorial to the General Medical Council (see page 618) makes the very most of the ill-advised wording of the Council's resolution. The offence complained of was that the doctor involved had persistently engaged unqualified persons for the sale of scheduled poisons, and thus encouraged those persons to break a law of the realm—to wit, the Pharmacy Act. The General Medical Council is not at all likely to depart from this, the real issue, and we hope the Pharmaceutical Society will be represented when the Glasgow deputation is heard by the Council, in order to watch pharmaceutical interests.

BEGINNING, END, OR WHAT?

The *Westminster Gazette* discovered on Tuesday "some official information as to the new druggist's company," and summed up otherwise belated information with the useful reminder that there are now under the Boot régime "four companies carrying on retail chemists' businesses in different parts of the country—Boot's Cash Chemists (Eastern), Limited, owning some ninety shops in the Eastern and Midland counties; Boot's Cash Chemists (Western), Limited, owning over fifty shops in the Western part of the country; Boot's Cash Chemists (Lancashire), Limited, owning over fifty shops in the Lancashire district; and Boot's Cash

Chemists (Southern), Limited, which will own between sixty and seventy shops in London and the South of England." Altogether, therefore, no fewer than 250 open shops for the sale of poisons which, practically, are under the supreme control of one person, Mr. Jesse Boot, who by the strange mischance of the law happens not to be of the nature, substance, and quality that the law intended. Mr. Boot is a phenomenally successful man of business. As a chemists' shopkeeper his achievement is unparalleled in the history of the drug-trade, and we hope with all earnestness that history may never repeat itself in this regard. One of the objects of the Pharmacy Bill is to assure that hope, and if the Bill were less cumbersome it would succeed.

THE COST OF HELION.

The lay Press have been marvelling at a statement in the *Lancet* that helion costs 200*l.* a cubic foot. Professor Dewar, in continuing his low-temperature researches, has been for some time collecting the gases evolved from Bath waters which contain a minute quantity of helion, and the cost of collecting the mixture and separating the helion is necessarily very great. It is fortunate for science that the great cost has not acted as a deterrent to the Royal Institution investigators in their research for the absolute zero. When -273° C. is reached scientists will have attained a long-desired goal.

A PINK-PILL BOOM.

It appears from an interview that the *Sun* has had with the manager of Dr. Williams's Medicine Company, that there is quite a Society boom just now in Pink Pills for Pale People. The *Sun* remarks that people in good society who ten years ago, or even one year ago, would not have dreamed of using any advertised medicine have recently become quite fond of the pills which Mr. Fulford brought over from Canada seven years ago. The reason for this, it is said, is that the fact has leaked out that a certain foreign Royal family has to be ranked amongst the pale people whose countenances have been improved by the pink ovoids.

ACCEPTANCE OF PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATES.

A Minor candidate who had passed the matriculation examination of the Scotch Universities for graduation in medicine complains to us of the treatment that he has received from the Pharmaceutical Society. He applied for registration as a student in April last year on the strength of his matriculation certificate, which covered the subjects passed at two examinations. This was not in accordance with the regulations then in force, and he received a letter from the Secretary, which said:—

The certificates submitted by your son were placed before the Board of Examiners here at its meeting yesterday. After careful consideration by the Board, I was directed to inform you that the certificate of registration as a medical student could not be accepted under the present regulations, but that after August 1 should be empowered to receive such a certificate under the special provision applicable to medical students registered by a Scotch University. All your son has to do, therefore, is to again send me the enclosed certificate immediately after the end of August, together with the remittance which I am compelled to return to you herewith.

Desiring to enter for the October Minor the candidate sent in the certificate again as instructed, but it was not accepted until the Board met in October, so that he was excluded from the Minor examination that month. The phrasing of the Secretary's letter suggests that the Board had empowered him to accept the certificate without again submitting it to them, but there are two factors against that view: (1) the Board could not in strict legality take cognisance of the certificate until the by-law referring to it became operative—viz., after August, 1900; and (2) the return of the fee indicated the end of the transaction. We gather that the matter was discussed at the last Council-meeting after public business was concluded, and the Secretary's action was

sustained. It may be suggested that some elasticity in such matters should be allowed, but we do not think it would be at all to the general advantage if "the Office" were not controlled by the Board, however formal that control may be. All candidates should bear in mind that three months must practically elapse between the acceptance of their Preliminary certificates and entrance for the Minor.

COMPOUNDERS' DUTIES.

Two special medical units for service in South Africa left Aldershot on Tuesday to embark at Southampton. It included a number of chemists' assistants who have enlisted as privates of the R.A.M.C. We hope that these young men will have a happier experience than some who have gone before them, and who were compelled as soon as they got on board ship to perform menial duties quite inconsistent with the special services for which they were engaged. We have recently had verbal and written accounts from men who have served with the R.A.M.C. in South Africa, and their statements agree as to the fact that floor-washing, latrine-digging and cleaning, removal of *dejecta* from hospital patients, and similar disgusting work was put upon the chemists' assistants who had enlisted as compounders, and only a few had the courage to protest and to claim that they were engaged for the special work of compounding. Where these protests were backed with references to the instructions and training the men had received at Aldershot they were successful. We wish, therefore, to make it clear to young pharmacists who respond to the call for R.A.M.C. recruits for temporary service that they may be required to do all the work that falls to privates in the R.A.M.C. Only a fraction of those who have been sent to the front have been called upon to act as compounders—a rank which escapes the unpleasant work referred to. Since the foregoing was written the *Times* has published the following paragraph:—

"Chemicus" writes to us from Vryburg, under date March 24, to urge the claims of the Volunteer chemists who have given their services as "civil compounders" in South Africa during the war. "Compounders" were called for by the War Office at the beginning of hostilities, and, in spite of the low rate of remuneration offered—3s. 6d. per diem with rations and a free kit—a great number of applications were sent in. "Chemicus" complains that the 250 chemists who went out to the war, so far from being treated, like the doctors, as professional men, have been compelled to do hard manual labour, as though they belonged to the military rank-and-file. He considers that, if it is found necessary to call for more "compounders," a response will not be forthcoming unless the scale of payment is raised and the regulations as to employment clearly set out by the authorities.

We printed a similar complaint from Vryburg a few weeks ago.

BRITISH BACKWARDNESS.

Professor H. E. Armstrong keeps pegging away at the "downfall of natural indigo." About a year ago he plainly told Indian planters that they might as well shut up shop because the Badische Anilin und Soda Fabrik would squeeze them out with their artificial product. He still holds the same opinion, and repeated it in the *Times* on Monday to the extent of a column and a half. He brought out some really interesting facts regarding British failures in the production of aniline dyes, showing that we have had priority in the most important departments of this industry, but have failed because each discoverer has been too individualistic to make his discoveries a big commercial success. Perhaps the most striking instance that Professor Armstrong gives is that of Mr. Green's discovery of primuline a few years ago. This was hailed at the time as a great scientific hit, and a new departure in colour making. But Mr. Green's firm did not even patent the invention, thinking that they could keep it secret, and within a short time foreign chemists found out all about it, and quite a number of valuable similar dyes were produced and patented.

"Here," remarks Professor Armstrong, "the counting-house could not appreciate what the laboratory had done." He is clearly of opinion that we are not in so bad a way as to equipment. Indeed, he insists that this "country is full of scientific ability, capable under proper conditions of doing all that—perhaps more than—is done elsewhere; but the public will not utilize it, and academic traditions dominate our schools and Universities. The reform of public opinion, of the public attitude, is the reform we most sorely need. The success of Germany is in no way primarily the outcome of technical education in the sense in which the term is understood in this country, but is mainly due to the fact that the Universities have done their duty and that the nation is educated. Their Universities have always been schools of research, of inquiry; unless and until ours become such, and our youth are trained to advance, there can be no hope for us. God help us to make the change before it be too late!"

Reviews.

Practical Enlarging. By JOHN A. HODGES. 4th ed. enlarged and revised. $7 \times 4\frac{3}{4}$. Pp. 138. 1s. net. (Photography Bookshelf, No. 6). (Iliffe, Sons & Sturmy.)

THE fourth edition of this guide to enlarging seems to have been fairly brought up to date, as the matter includes a mention of the newer types of astigmatism-free lenses, new developers, and the use of bolting cloth. Previous experience has shown us that the information given is trustworthy and practical, features which make Mr. Hodge's book the best guide to photographic enlarging we know of.

Colour-Photography; a Practical Treatise for Amateurs. By A. E. Smith. Illus. $7 \times 4\frac{3}{4}$. Pp. 72. 1s. (Amateur Photographer Library, No. 21). (Hazell, Watson & Viney.)

THE object of this book is to put in a concise form the methods of working three-colour photography. The theory of colour-photography is shortly explained, then follows a chapter on making, testing, and using colour-screens, and others on printing on paper and making transparencies, the Joly-McDonough process, and the Kromskop. The explanations of the various manipulations are lucidly given.

The Chemical Manufacturers' Directory. $8\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 144. Simpkin. 2s. 6d.

THE thirty-third edition of this annual has just been published, and, so far as we are able to judge, differs but little from its predecessors, except that it has been "corrected and enlarged." The editor professes to give all the leading and important firms in the trade, but does not deny that some defects may possibly be found. We agree with him, as on turning up "quinine," for instance, we find the names of two makers only. Moreover, the list of manufacturers of "pharmaceutical preparations" is by no means complete, several leading London and provincial houses being omitted.

MESSRS. MARSHALL BROTHERS have just published an autobiography of the late Miss Charlotte Hanbury, which has been edited by her niece, Mrs. Albert Head, daughter of Mr. Cornelius Hanbury. In some respects the book recalls the life and letters of Mr. William Allen, Miss Hanbury's grandfather by marriage, perhaps because it is chiefly made up of extracts from diaries and memoranda of notable experiences, while the spirit of Christian devotion and zeal for the betterment of mankind were the outstanding features of Miss Hanbury's life, as they were of Mr. William Allen's. There are many amongst our subscribers to whom the narrative and spiritual experience embraced in the autobiography will specially appeal, and Miss Hanbury's relations with some of the leaders of the drug-trade adds interest to the book, although it should be explained that from beginning to end it is purely a personal narrative. Miss Hanbury's notes on her association with great leaders of religious thought and social reform, such as the Rev. W. Pennefather, George Müller, D. L. Moody, and Henry Drummond, and her notes of foreign travel are especially interesting.

Winter Session.

Notices of meetings to be held are inserted under "Coming Events." If meetings are not attended by reporters, secretaries of associations would oblige by communicating with the Editor.

Society of Arts.

SIR H. E. ROSCOE presided at a meeting of the Society on April 17, when a lecture was given by Professor R. MELDOLA on

THE SYNTHESIS OF INDIGO.

The lecturer emphasised the fact that the synthetic indigo at present being produced is identically the same chemical compound indigotin as is obtained from the plant, and not a different chemical compound producing the same colour-shades as indigo. An extremely interesting review of the earlier processes of preparing synthetic indigo was then given. These processes are not available for competition against natural indigo on account of the cost of production. Toluene, or benzene, as starting-points, have various disadvantages, the chief being the cost of the raw products and the limited supply. It is, therefore, the fact that the Badische Company's process starts from naphthalene, a cheap and plentiful article, that makes the ultimate product able to compete in price with natural indigo. Details of the patient manner in which the Badische Company have worked at the synthesis of indigo for the last seven years were then given, as well as such particulars of the process as have been made public. The company have spent nearly a million pounds in plant for the production of synthetic indigo. A good deal was said during the lecture on the apathy of the English in scientific education and the negligence of the indigo-planters. Professor Meldola did not hold out much hope that the results of the scientific investigations which are being made for the planters will be of much use, as whilst these are taking place the manufacturers of the artificial product will naturally be improving their process. Such improvements in chemical matters are invariably on the side of cheapness.

There was no discussion.

The Photographic Trade Association.

THE first general meeting of this Association was held on April 11 at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C. Mr. George Houghton, the newly-elected President, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance. The first hour was taken up with the consideration of the rules drafted by the Executive Committee, and these after a few alterations were finally passed *en bloc*. Several more members of Council were then elected to make the total up to thirty. The councillors elect thirteen of their number to form an Executive Committee, who carry on the work of the Association. The next item on the agenda was regarding

KODAK'S NEW CONDITION.

THE SECRETARY said that 1,166 answers to the circulars sent out to dealers in accordance with the resolution of the previous meeting (*C. & D.*, March 23, page 482) were received. Of the replies 981 expressed disapproval of the new Kodak condition, whilst 54 expressed approval. This result was communicated to the Company, who replied:—

The condition in question has now been in successful operation for some time. We have received a very large number of expressions of approval of the course we have taken, and orders have vastly increased upon previous records for the same season of the year. As to the opposition to which you refer this we find has been fomented by manufacturers and others with the object of using the influence of the dealer to serve their own purposes. Restrictions of any and every kind have always been met with opposition. The same objections were very general at the outset in regard to conditions of sale imposed to prevent underselling, but it is now universally recognised that these restrictions are advantageous to the dealer.

THE PRESIDENT said he was sorry at the refusal of the company to reconsider the terms of the conditions of sale

in face of the opinions of the trade and the trade Press. The fact that Kodak business had increased did not appear to have any bearing on the matter, and they all well knew that the agitation had not been fomented by manufacturers. The restriction had always met with opposition from the trade. As to what further action should be taken in the matter, his own opinion—formed after consideration of all the bearings of the case, was that the question is not at present ripe for active opposition. The President then stated at length his reasons for this opinion, and said it is possible that when the public came to know of the action of the Kodak Company they might in many cases prefer to buy plate or cut-film cameras.

Mr. A. C. BROOKS said he disagreed with the conclusions of the President. From various things which have happened lately it seemed to him the company were coming to the conclusion they have a weak case. At the general meeting of the company held a short while ago a question was asked as to why a chemist-dealer had ceased to display kodaks. The daily Press gave nothing about this question or answer, but *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* reported this portion of the proceedings in full. From this report it appeared that the manager, recognising an awkward question, smoothed the matter over as well as he could. The company have several times mentioned that they do not intend applying this restriction to any of the other goods they sell, but he thought if the shareholders find they benefit by the new condition they will require the managers to apply the same principle to everything the company deals in. It seemed to him the result of giving in to the restriction will be to exclude all improvements and inventions in photographic goods as far as they apply to roll cameras and films, which is asking a good deal of dealers. The Kodak Company were not the originators of the day-roll system, but they undoubtedly popularised it, so that having competed with other manufacturers they should expect competition themselves. The whole trade is threatened, and he did not think dealers will shrink, even if they have to make a sacrifice, to save the photographic trade from falling in the hands of foreigners. So far no remedy has been suggested for the evil, but he thought if they could form a committee and get each of the Association members to order a dozen cameras, facsimiles of Kodak's, they would have no difficulty in finding manufacturers who would welcome the aggregate order. If his suggestion could be carried out it would place dealers in a stronger position than they are at present, and enable them to defy the company.

A good deal of discussion followed these speeches, one section of the speakers being in favour of ignoring the restriction and selling competing cameras and films side by side with kodaks until stopped by the company. The Association, it was suggested, might promote and defend a test-action. About 500*l.* was promised in the room towards the expenses of a test-action if such should be undertaken. Another section of the meeting favoured the idea of an improved roll-camera, supplied only to members of the Association who might undertake the manufacture of cameras in the same way that Camwal manufacture aerated waters for chemists. Eventually it was decided to send a circular to all dealers asking whether they would support the Association in their opposition to the Kodak restriction. The circular is also to mention that a guarantee-fund has been opened to defend any member prosecuted by the Kodak Company.

The other items on the agenda in reference to the classification of photographic goods by railway companies and the sale of poisons by photographic dealers did not come under discussion owing to the lateness of the hour.

Oxford and District Chemists' Association.

THE following resolution was carried unanimously at a meeting of this Chemists' Association, held on April 16 at the Golden Cross Hotel, Mr. C. Clayton (President) in the chair:—

Proposed by the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. SQUIRE "That after due consideration of the Shops (Early-closing) Bill, the members of the Oxford and District Chemists Association are unable to support the same, and would much prefer to leave the matter of early closing to voluntary local effort."

Dewsbury Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held on April 15, in the Church House, Dewsbury, Mr. Stead presiding.

EARLY CLOSING.

The correspondence, read by the SECRETARY (Mr. J. Walker) included a communication from the *C. & D.*, asking for an expression of the views of the Association in regard to Lord Avebury's Shops (Early-closing) Bill. The Secretary said, after consulting the President, he replied that they approved of compulsory legislation, and that the exemption of Clause 9 appeared to meet the case. He also intimated that these were the personal views of the President and Secretary only.

Mr. S. N. PICKARD thought the owners of lock-up chemists' shops would be at a disadvantage as compared with chemists who live on the premises and have the benefit of Clause 9.

Mr. BROADHEAD thought that the exemption was a sufficient safety.

Mr. GLEDHILL said he was opposed to local option, but thought early closing should be compulsory all round.

The PRESIDENT agreed there was too much local option and exemption, which killed the previous Bill.

THE PHARMACY BILL.

Members who attended the recent meeting of chemists at Leeds to discuss the Pharmacy Bill gave their report.

Mr. GLEDHILL said the refusal of Alderman Harrison to enter Parliament was a great loss to pharmacy. The objections to the Bill raised at the Leeds Conference were, in his opinion, frivolous. If members of the Council would come more among chemists he believed the membership would be doubled in twelve months. He was confident that such a Conference as the one held at Leeds would do more good than all the preaching in London would do in two years.

The PRESIDENT said in any amendment of the 1868 Bill they must see to it that no seven or less number of men should be able to do what was illegal for one man to do. At the same time, they must not prevent a number of registered chemists from doing collectively what any one could do individually. There had been a lot of captious criticism, but they were safe in leaving the Bill in the hands of its framers.

Mr. PICKARD said the Bill was an admirable one, and if it passed it would be a stepping-stone to further advance. They could not now put down company-pharmacy; it ought to have been done years ago. The only thing they could hope for was to compromise and regulate it in accordance with individual qualification. Every registered man ought to support the Bill.

Mr. BROADHEAD said, after consideration, he had come to the conclusion that they must support the Bill. The voice of the country seemed to be in favour of it. It was a serious matter, and they might be doing something that would turn out differently from what they expected. Whether the Bill passed or was consigned to the limbo of oblivion their part in it would remain. The evil of men lived after them. (Laughter.) But if they were sinning it was in good company. At Leeds the Bill was received with quite an outburst of enthusiastic apathy (*sic*). There were few objections and few praises, except from members of the Council. Some of the objections were pitifully frivolous. The 1868 Act seemed to be ignored, and the question was actually asked what would happen if an unqualified assistant sold laudanum in the absence of his employer, who had gone to sit on a bench. Why a respectable chemist wanted to go and sit on a bench if he had a comfortable armchair at home he was at a loss to understand. (Laughter.) The 1868 Act, however, was something that nobody could understand, and when such questions could be asked it was time they had some other Bill. There was not a single objection to the Bill on principle except his own mild protest against the compromise. While he objected to surrender or capitulation he was prepared to do his best in the interests of the Bill.

Mr. R. GLEDHILL also spoke in support of the Bill, which, he said, made airtight the gaps in the 1868 Bill.

A motion in support of the Bill was carried unanimously.

COUNCIL CANDIDATES.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. S. N. PICKARD, one of the candidates for the Pharmaceutical Council, addressed the meeting. He remarked that he had no idea of being nominated until he received an intimation of his nomination from the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society. He was urged by friends to go before the country, and his main reason for consenting was that Yorkshire, the largest shire, had only one representative, while Lancashire had three, and London was represented by a third of the members of the Council. He had had considerable experience in pharmacy, and claimed to know the requirements of pharmacists. His experience on the P.A.T.A. and Chemists' Defence Fund showed that his heart was in the work. He was in favour of the Bill because there was nothing better before them. He pointed out the rapid strides made in the last two or three years since the election of new members, and expressed the opinion that the retirement of some of the older members to give way to young and more energetic men would be a good thing for pharmacy.

Mr. BROADHEAD spoke in advocacy of Mr. Lord Gifford's candidature. He said Mr. Gifford had stuck to his guns systematically and consistently as no other man in the trade had, and had more staying powers. His destructive criticism was powerful, and his constructive criticism was sometimes rather vague, but his principles were such as the speaker would have been glad to fight for if he had had anyone to back him up. Where could Mr. Gifford be made to believe that qualified ownership was lost for ever except in the academical cloisters of 17 Bloomsbury Square? He was carrying North-East Lancashire with him, probably to the detriment of the Bill, and his election would be one step towards gaining unanimous action.

After a ballot had been taken it was resolved to support the following candidates:—Messrs. S. N. Pickard (Ossett), R. L. Gifford (Blackburn), G. B. Allen (London), S. R. Atkins (Salisbury), W. Martindale (London), C. T. W. Newsholme (Sheffield), and A. J. Campkin (Cambridge).

Chemists Meet at Bristol.

UNDER the auspices of the Pharmaceutical Society a meeting of registered chemists and druggists was held at the Royal Hotel, Bristol, on Wednesday afternoon, the principal business being the discussion of

THE PHARMACY BILL.

Mr. G. T. Turner (President of the Bristol Pharmaceutical Association) presided. Amongst those present were Messrs. S. R. Atkins (Salisbury), R. Bremeridge (Secretary of the Society), W. Wright (Yeovil), Cooper (Weston-super-Mare), E. Young, J. Chandler, J. Stroud, B. Keen (Hon. Secretary of the Bristol Association), L. Stroud (Tewkesbury), Horniblow (Gloucester), Hagon (Cardiff), Sanders (Cardiff), Coles (Chippingham), J. T. Long, W. James, Danhery, W. Pitchford Green (Frome), Carson (Trowbridge), J. G. Plumley, and T. Buxton.

The President, after according a hearty welcome to all present, said he thought the Society had come to a wise decision when it adopted the plan of having divisional conferences throughout the country. The Society came before them very much as in the marriage ceremony—if any of you know just cause or impediment why the Bill should not become law, you are now to declare it. (Laughter.) He hoped everyone would give full expression to his opinion, and no one would hesitate to say so if he felt he was not in harmony with the meeting.

Mr. S. R. Atkins, the Treasurer of the Society, before giving an exposition of the draft Bill, spoke on the recent change in the Society's local organisation. Speaking of the Bill he explained it, saying that it was not the outcome of hasty procedure, but the result of one of the most prolonged processes in which he had taken part, and of compromise with various schools of thought, and concluded by asking the meeting to do the best they could to make the Bill law.

The President said the Bill was not all he should wish it, but he believed it contained as much as they had a possible chance of getting Parliament to accept or pass. As

to the qualification of all directors, that was a point on which the Bill would stand or fall in the House of Commons. For his own part he would not concede a single point on that. It was nothing but reasonable that all the directors of a company should be qualified. Why should seven unqualified men have the power to do what one unqualified man was not allowed to do?

Mr. Wright (Yeovil) said that a great step in advance had been taken by the Bill generally.

Mr. Stroud (Tewkesbury) urged that they ought to have a limit during which a widow's business could be carried on by a registered manager. This was a weak spot.

Mr. Atkins said that in the discussion on the widow's clause there was no limit as to time nor was any suggested.

Mr. Young said he was glad the Council had given up yearning for the unattainable, and had brought forward a practicable Bill. He was not prepared to go as far as the President and say if they could not carry the directors clause they had better drop the Bill. He thought even if they could not carry that the Bill would be worth having.

Mr. Keen said they should congratulate themselves on the development of divisional representation, and each divisional secretary should be able to put himself in touch with his Parliamentary representative. The Bill pretty much carried out some of the views they held. He suggested that in each shop the name of the registered manager should be posted. He moved "that this meeting, having considered the draft Pharmacy Bill in all its bearings, deems it worthy of support, and pledges itself to do its best to ensure its becoming law."

Mr. Wright seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Afterwards hearty thanks were expressed to Mr. Atkins for his address, to Mr. Bremridge for his presence, to the President, and to Mr. B. Keen for his services in arranging the meeting.

Marriages.

BLACKBOURN—MAYALL.—At St. Philip's, Southport, on April 14, William Blackbourn, chemist and druggist, Southport, to Emma Mayall, of Southport.

DOLMAN—FLECK.—On April 10, at St. Peter's, Fulham, by the Rev. W. Dolman, brother of the bridegroom, Thomas Justin Dolman, chemist and druggist, Cheltenham, to Ethel Idina Fleck, of Wimbledon.

PLUMSTEAD—PETLEY.—On April 10, at St. Mary's Church, Attleborough, Fredk. George Edward Plumstead, chemist and druggist, to Georgiana, third daughter of Mr. Chas. Petley, of Attleborough.

MOORE—BIEDERMANN.—On April 3, at the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Angell Town, Brixton, by the Rev. Edward P. Lewis, M.A., B.D., J. Langford Moore, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, eldest son of the late James Moore, M.R.C.V.S. London, to Clara Theresa, third daughter of the late Emil Biedermann, civil engineer, Durand Gardens, Clapham, S.W.

Deaths.

BOWMAN.—At 17 Clarendon Place, Leeds, on April 15, Mr. John Bowman, chemist and druggist, late of Woodhouse.

CLOWER.—At Northampton, suddenly, on April 16, Mr. John Clower, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 44. Mr. Clower had been in failing health for some time, and had only a few days previously returned from Worthing, where he had been staying for the benefit of his health. He appeared to have benefited by the change, but an acute attack of peritonitis developed, and death quickly followed. Mr. Clower was a gentleman of high intellectual capacity and scientific abilities. He was an analytical chemist of some repute, and was regarded as an authority in regard to analyses of the drinking-water of the town. He was Vice-President and an active member of the Northampton and District Chemists' Association, and his sterling character and sunny nature endeared him to his brother craftsmen. Mr. Clower succeeded to the business of Mr. T. H. Woolslin in Northampton about fourteen years ago. Prior to that time he was an assistant

at Worcester, and then at Leamington. He leaves a widow, three sons, and two daughters. The funeral took place on Thursday.

COTTINGHAM.—At Market Rasen, on April 3, Mr. T. H. P. Cottingham, chemist and druggist. Aged 25.

Cox.—On March 25, Mr. Harry Bertrand Cox, pharmaceutical chemist, Shepton Mallet. Aged 30.

FLEMING.—On April 13, at his residence, Higher Leigh, Combe Martin, North Devon, Colonel George Fleming, C.B., LL.D., F.R.C.V.S., formerly principal veterinary surgeon to the army. Aged 68. Colonel Fleming was a native of Glasgow, and received his professional education at the Royal Veterinary College, Edinburgh. He entered the army as veterinary surgeon in 1855 at the age of 22, and served in the Crimea, North China, Egypt, and Syria. He was appointed staff veterinary surgeon in 1879, and became principal veterinary surgeon of the army in 1883, a position which he retained until 1890, when he retired. Colonel Fleming was highly esteemed in veterinary circles, and had been a member of the Council of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, as well as an examiner to that body, and he was elected President of the College five times. He was thrice married, and is survived by Anna de Montmorency, his widow.

HARDING.—On April 16, Mrs. Mary Ann Harding, wife of Mr. C. Harding, pharmaceutical chemist, 18 Exmouth Street, Clerkenwell, E.C. Aged 42.

MICHELL.—On April 9, at 35 Fore Street, St. Austell, Cornwall, Elizabeth Ann, wife of Mr. Thomas George Michell, chemist and druggist. Aged 74.

ROSE.—On April 3, Mr. Charles Rose, chemist and druggist, New Brighton. Aged 58.

SKINNER.—On April 9, Mr. Michael Hill Skinner, chemist and druggist, Keelby, near Ulceby, Lincs. Aged 61. Mr. Skinner commenced business in Louth, but shortly afterwards removed to Keelby, where he carried on a successful business for a great number of years. He took an active part in public affairs, and was a member of the Rural District Council, Parish Council, and of the School Board.

VAIDYA.—On March 2, at Bombay, of plague, Mr. G. M. Vaidya. Aged 23. Mr. Vaidya was formerly an assistant in the employ of Messrs. Paranjape, Athalye & Co., druggists, Kalhadevi Road, Bombay, but latterly had been in the Government Veterinary College, Bombay. Being a Government servant he was selected for census work, and it was while in the execution of his duty as a census-taker in an infected part of the city that he caught the plague and died, after six days' illness.

WALKER.—At Manchester, on April 13, Mr. James Joseph Frederick Walker, chemist and druggist. Aged 59. Mr. Walker was formerly in business in Cavendish Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, but about two years ago he retired, and was residing with his daughter at Stockport Road, Manchester. Owing to ulceration of the stomach deceased had recently been in the habit of taking opium to relieve the pain. It had at first been thought that he might have died from opium-poisoning, but a *post-mortem* examination showed that death was the result of the ulceration and not to opium.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Clegg, J., and Clegg, E., under the style of Clegg & Son, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury, Yorkshire, mineral-water manufacturers.

Finsler, J. A., and Wheeler, H., under the style of Finsler & Wheeler, Great Tower Street, E.C., commission-agents and merchants.

The Bankruptcy Acts 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

Baines, Egerton Charles Augustus, Henley-on-Thames, surgeon.

ADJUDICATION.

Brooks, William P., late Cardiff, now Porth, doctor of medicine.

Legal Reports.

High Court Case.

CHEMICAL FOG v. LIGHT FOG.

THE Easter sittings of the High Court of Justice commenced on Tuesday. One of the cases heard by Mr. Justice Darling was an action by Mr. Faussett against Messrs. Watson & Sons, photographic dealers, of High Holborn, W.C. Plaintiff, a photographer, stated that in October, 1899, he visited the defendants' shop to get a camera for taking animals in motion. On defendants' recommendation he purchased a "Gambier Bolton" camera and accessories for 13s. 19s. 6d. He tried it at Epsom, Trafalgar Square, and other places, but found that the plates were fogged. He afterwards concluded that this was due to leakage of light, but on complaining to the defendants he was told that the plates were chemically and not light fogged, and that the camera was not in fault. The defendants' assistant accompanied him on one occasion for the purpose of testing the camera, but he (the plaintiff) was of opinion that they had inserted "slow" instead of "lightning" plates, and that the assistant obtained his results by holding the camera in an improper manner. He had never used one of the cameras before. Mr. Stephens, for the defendants, submitted that there was no case, and Mr. Justice Darling was of the same opinion, and gave judgment for defendants with costs.

KODAK'S INCOME-TAX.

MR. DANCKWERTS, K.C., on Tuesday moved, before the Master of the Rolls and Lord Justices Vaughan Williams and Romer, for leave to appeal from the order of a lower Court in regard to the payment of income-tax (see *C. & D.*, April 13, page 591). Instead of the mandamus then granted, Mr. Danckwerts desired a rule *nisi* . The Master of the Rolls, in granting it, said it was a waste of time to hear the merits of the case at the present stage.

THE POWDER-PUFF COMPANY'S MANAGER.

IN the Chancery Division on April 17, Mr. Justice Buckley had before him the case of Wehner v. Papier Poudré (Limited), which was an action by the former managing director of the company, Mr. Anthony Stephen Wehner, for an account of commissions due to him, and for an injunction restraining the company from prohibiting him from acting further in the management of the company. There was a counterclaim setting forth that the plaintiff had offered his resignation, which was accepted, and claiming an indemnity against liability under contracts entered into by plaintiff on behalf of the company, and which the company repudiated.

Mr. Dickens, K.C., in opening the case for the plaintiff, explained that the company was formed to take over the business of Mrs. Butler, of 23 Somerset Street, W., in the production and sale of a powder-puff, which was sold in little books that could be carried in the pocket and produced readily to dab on the face when the lady was hot. The company was incorporated on November 16, 1898, with a capital of 1,200*l.*, and Mr. Wehner was elected chairman of the company, and subsequently appointed manager for three years in consideration of a remuneration of 10 per cent. on the profits of the gross sales. Plaintiff said he had never received any commission, hence this action; and friction arising between him and the company they dispensed with his services, and declined to allow him a seat at the Board.

Plaintiff generally supported counsel's opening statement. He said the company paid the vendors 1,000*l.* in fully-paid shares for the goodwill, the balance of 200*l.* of the purchase-money being found elsewhere. In cross-examination he admitted that he had received some payment for his services. He also admitted that he had not repudiated a letter written by Mrs. Butler to him asking for a number of documents, and in which she described herself as the managing director.

The hearing was adjourned.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

SCOTCH CASES.

AT the Linlithgow Sheriff Court on Monday, April 15, Hon. Sheriff-Substitute Turnbull on the bench, Elizabeth Orr,

assistant in the shop of J. B. Graham, medical practitioner, Bo'ness, was charged with selling to Donald McLean a quantity of red precipitate, which formed an ingredient in an ointment, she not being a duly registered chemist. Mr. Peter Morison, jun., S.S.C., appeared on behalf of the prosecutor, Mr. Richard Bremridge, Registrar under the Pharmacy Act; and Mr. James Kidd, solicitor, for the respondent.

Mr. Kidd intimated that his client would plead not guilty, but he had some preliminary objections to the complaint and the method of service. In the copy served upon the accused the name of the Procurator-Fiscal was omitted, and the word "offences" appeared instead of "offence" in the prayer of the complaint. Further, the penalties of a fine or imprisonment were not stated as alternatives. For these reasons he asked his Lordship to declare the complaint irrelevant.

Mr. Morison said that although it was usual to have the name of the Fiscal on the service-copy of the complaint it was entirely unnecessary, as the Registrar under the Pharmacy Act prosecuted in his own name. The principal complaint was in correct form, and bore the name of the Procurator-Fiscal. The service-copy also bore the Fiscal's concurrence and his signature thereto.

The Sheriff-Clerk said the Fiscal's concurrence was obtained before the warrant of citation was granted, and the principal complaint was in proper form.

Mr. Morison said there was a mere technical omission on the part of the Sheriff's officer serving the complaint, and no injustice was done to the respondent thereby. With regard to the word "offences," that was a matter which could be corrected now. The complaint was in the form sanctioned by the High Court of Justiciary in the recent suspension case of Gardner, which was an appeal from a decision in this court. There could therefore be no doubt that the form of the complaint was correct. There was ample time, however, to serve a new copy of the complaint on the respondent before the actual date of the trial, and he was quite willing to do so.

The Hon. Sheriff said he was of opinion that no substantial injury or hardship had been inflicted upon the respondent by anything to which his attention had been directed, and that the complaint was relevant and in due form, and he repelled the objections; but in respect of the prosecutor's offer to serve a new copy, he authorised that to be done, and awarded the respondent one guinea of expenses.

The further hearing was fixed for Monday, April 22.

AT the same court Wm. Brownrig, assistant to Dr. Stewart, Uphall, was charged with having, in Dr. Stewart's shop, known as the Medical Hall, there sold two poisons—chloroform and red precipitate—to Donald McLean, he not being a registered chemist. Brownrig pleaded not guilty, and the case was adjourned till Monday, April 22.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

MARMALADE.

AT a special sitting of the West Sussex Quarter Sessions at Horsham on April 12, an appeal by George White, of Worthing, was heard against a conviction by the Worthing Bench for selling marmalade adulterated with 13 per cent. of starch glucose.

Mr. Otto Hehner, the public analyst for West Sussex, having deposed to his analysis, said it was not necessary to use starch glucose in marmalade or any kind of jam. Until the recent prosecutions so-called golden syrup consisted largely of liquid glucose. The object of dextrin was to prevent crystallisation. When jam was properly made with sugar it would not crystallise for some years. He thought it was to the prejudice of the purchaser to have glucose in his jam. The fact should be stated on the label. Cross-examined as to whether in the past there had been any concealment of the use of glucose. Mr. Hehner said there had been, and those who had made use of it were struggling hard to prevent the fact becoming known. He had analysed a large number of jams, but had found no arsenic in any of them.

Mr. Hehner's evidence was corroborated by Mr. A. H. Allen, F.I.C., of Sheffield, and Mr. J. A. Voelcker, F.I.C.

For the appellant, it was contended that the purpose of glucose was not to cheapen but to improve jam. Glucose

was a perfectly harmless ingredient—indeed, it was a valuable food substance. In support of this, Dr. Wm. Murrell deposed that commercial glucose compared very favourably with cane sugar, and was more readily digestible. The public health would not be in any way prejudiced by 10 or 12 per cent. of commercial glucose in marmalade. Mr. W. Blackwell (of Crosse & Blackwell, Limited) and several other jam-manufacturers upheld the virtues of glucose, and Mr. Clarke Saunders and Professor Wyndham Dunstan supported. In the end the Justices upheld the conviction, but agreed to stac a case.

The Statute was not Pleaded.

IN the City of London Court on April 11, an action was brought by Messrs. Arnold & Son, surgical-instrument manufacturers, 30 West Smithfield, E.C., to recover 3l. 7s. 10d. for surgical instruments supplied to Dr. Christopher W. Hogarth, 4 Earlswood Street, East Greenwich. The defendant said that part of the goods were supplied to him more than six years ago, and consequently the Statute of Limitations prevented the plaintiffs from being entitled to recover. He believed he had paid for some of the goods which were now sued for, but he could not prove it, as the transactions took place so long ago. He had left the practice at which the goods were used. Mr. Commissioner Kerr said the defendant had not pleaded the Statute of Limitations; therefore there was no answer to the action, and judgment must be given for the plaintiffs on the claim, with costs.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re BROWN SAVILL & Co., 10 London Street, E.C., East India Merchants.

AT the London Bankruptcy Court on April 17, Dudley Fletcher Savill and Arthur Frank Savill, trading in partnership as above, attended for public examination upon accounts showing total liabilities 20,785l. 3s. 8d. (unsecured, 8,416l. 10s. 11d.) and assets valued at 1,680l. 4s. 9d. The debtor D. F. Savill stated, in reply to Mr. E. L. Hough, Official Receiver, that the failure was due mainly to loss sustained through customers having, on the outbreak of the plague in India, abandoned their businesses and failed to take delivery of merchandise shipped to them; also to disorganisation of transport caused by the South African War, to bad debts, and to the rise in the price of raw materials. For years past they had dealt in essential oils, and, as during the last three or four years there had been absolutely no market for the oils, the price had declined every year. There was no truth in the statement made by a creditor that certain bills were accepted on the representation that they related to aniseed. He distinctly told the creditor they were accommodation bills. The examination was ordered to be concluded.

Re AUGUSTUS CAMPION, trading as Campion & Co., 16 Philpot Lane, E.C., General-produce Brokers.

THE first meeting of creditors was held at the London Bankruptcy Court on April 15. The debtor attributed his appearance at the court to pressure by the petitioning creditors. The accounts filed by the debtor show total liabilities 9,203l., and assets valued at sufficient to provide a surplus of 1,506l. after payment of all the debts. A resolution was ultimately passed for Mr. George Browning, accountant, to act as trustee, and wind-up the estate in bankruptcy, assisted by a committee of inspection consisting of two London and one Liverpool creditors. The following are a few of the principal creditors:

Unsecured.

	£	s.	d.
Boulton, S. A., London	200	0	0
White & Son (Limited), Hull	1,432	0	0

Fully Secured.

Campion, Monnet & Co. (Limited), London	1,000	0	0
Major & Field, London	25	0	0

Re THOMAS RAMSEY KENT, 103 Westminster Bridge Road, 76 New Cut, and 226 Blackfriars Road, S.E., Pharmaceutical Chemist.

THE first meeting of creditors was held on April 16 at the London Bankruptcy Court before Mr. H. E. Burgess, Assistant

Receiver. The debtor was started in business by his father who, in 1872, bought him the Westminster Bridge Road business and advanced him 1,000l., which was afterwards treated as a gift. On the death of his father in 1890 the debtor purchased from the executors the businesses at New Cut and Blackfriars Road, and he has since traded at the three places. He was in difficulties in 1898, and owing to the badness of trade he has since traded at a loss. In order to avoid an execution the debtor last January assigned his estate to a trustee nominated by the creditors, and the trading has since then been carried on by the trustee, the debtor being employed as manager. The debt was executed by all the creditors except the petitioner (Mr. Galpin), who refused the terms and obtained a receiving order against the estate. Accounts have been filed by the debtor showing gross liabilities 1,502l. 7s. 9d., of which 866l. 4s. 5d. are expected to rank against assets valued at 44l. 3s. 8d., after allowing for payment of the preferential claims, which amount to 13l. 3s. 4d. Competition and trade depression are the causes assigned for the failure. In reply to the Chairman the debtor said he had not included the goodwill as assets, because in the event of a forced realisation they would not be of any value. It was probable, however, that a customer could be found to purchase the businesses as going concerns, and having regard to the fact that they were all old-established concerns, a good price might be obtained. After some discussion the meeting was adjourned for a week with a view to the appointment of a trade trustee. Appended is a list of the principal creditors:—

Unsecured.

	£	s.	d.
Bull, D. W., Church Road, Kingsland	10	0	0
Davy Hill, Sons, Yates & Hicks, Park Street, S.E.	42	7	1
Galpin, J., 20 Bennett Street, S.E.	75	0	0
Greenfield & Cracknell, Lancaster Place, S.W.	15	0	0
Manners & Hopkinson, Southwark Bridge Road, S.E.	37	17	1
Meggeson & Co. (Lim.), Miles Lane, E.C.	16	10	0
Newbery, F., & Sons, Charterhouse Square, E.C.	82	13	2
Rippin, S., Forest Gate	10	0	0
Schutze & Co., Southwark Street, S.E.	10	0	0

Fully Secured.

Keut, T., deceased, trustees of, Brixton	505	0	0
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Contingent.

Farmer, Miss, Dorking	50	0	0
Greenfield & Cracknell, Lancaster Place, S.W.	50	0	0
Kent, Mrs. A., Streatham Hill	350	0	0

Preferential.

Rents	40	5	0
Rates and wages	90	18	4

Re JOHN DAVIES, 23 Union Street, Torquay, Chemist and Druggist.

THE public examination of this debtor was held at the Castle of Exeter on April 12. Particulars of the failure were given in last week's issue of the *C. & D.*, page 592. The debtor, who appeared in court in a bad state of health, said he had been suffering from the effects of blood-poisoning for the past seven years. Examined by the Official Receiver (Mr. T. Andrew), debtor said his liabilities amounted to 64l. 10s. 1d., and assets 99l. 17s. 11d. His assets were chiefly made up of stock-in-trade and fixtures. The Official Receiver suggested to the debtor that it would have been better if he had gone to his creditors than to have come into court. From all he had heard, debtor was a very respectable man. In reply to further questions, debtor said he had been in business for eighteen years. He first took a lease of his business-premises for seven years at 55l. a year, three months' notice to be given on either side to terminate it. At the expiration of the term he was pressed to take a fresh lease, but he refused. He, however, continued in occupation on the same terms. He did not remember any special terms of the lease, except that the landlord any time he wanted to look over the house could do so. The Official Receiver asked if there was a clause in the lease stating that it would become void in case of bankruptcy? Debtor: I could not tell you. The Official Receiver: Had they power by the terms of the lease to distrain three months in advance? Debtor: I know nothing about that. Debtor said he first became aware of his position about six months ago, when he was pressed by his landlord. He had had influenza, and had been blind four months. The examination was concluded.

*Re HYDE, NASH & Co., 16 Philpot Lane, E.C., Drug-
merchants.*

THE debtors, Robert Boyle Hyde and Thomas Nash, traded in partnership as above. They filed their petition on March 18, and the first meeting of creditors was held at the London Bankruptcy Court on April 12. It was stated that the debtors commenced business in January, 1876, Mr. Hyde contributing 300*l.* cash and 200*l.* stock, but Mr. Nash had no capital. A private meeting of the creditors was held recently, when the debtors were requested to file their petition. The failure was ascribed to loss of trade, increased competition, and want of capital. Mr. Nash has further stated that he lost 1,000*l.* during the last two years by speculating on the Stock Exchange. In the absence of any offer Mr. Henry Garnham, chartered accountant, Philpot Lane, E.C., was appointed trustee to administer the estate in bankruptcy, assisted by the following committee of inspection—viz., Mr. C. F. Gerhardt, Mr. Barnes (Jenkin & Phillips), and Mr. Morgan. A joint statement of affairs has been filed showing total liabilities 11,728*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*, of which 6,544*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* is unsecured, and assets valued at 928*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* Mr. Hyde returns his separate debts at 172*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*, and his separate assets at 373*l.* 15*s.*; whilst Mr. Nash has separate liabilities 867*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*, against personal assets valued at 115*l.* 12*s.* Messrs. Hatchett, Jones & Co. attended the meeting on behalf of the debtors, whose public examination is appointed for May 9.

Appended is a list of the principal creditors:—

Unsecured.

	£ s. d.
Bertenshaw & Turner, Manchester	16 9 1
Blyton, Astley & Co., Manchester	45 3 6
Bradford District Bank, Leeds	150 0 0
Fryer & Co., Nelson	172 2 6
Holdsworth, M. E., Bradford	674 11 4
Kearlin, Malcolm & Co. (Limited), London	132 1 11
Kenningham, Mrs., Wandsworth	105 0 0
Meyer & Co. (Limited), London	201 0 6
Morgan, Alfred, London	103 17 4
My-name Soap Company, London	267 6 0
Proctor, Major H., Virginia Water	1,025 19 0
Pullen, W. H., Bristol	269 7 9
Smith's Warehouse, London	11 4 2
West Riding Union Bank, Leeds	150 0 0

Fully Secured.

	£ s. d.
Devon, F. C., & Co., London	561 12 9
(Security valued at 610 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i>)	
Eastwood & Holt, London	983 9 10
(Security valued at 1,102 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>)	
Gueda la & Butcher, London	87 7 0
(Security valued at 87 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i>)	
Marshall & French, London	384 7 8
(Security valued at 440 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i>)	
Merry, T., & Son, London	72 16 11
(Security valued at 72 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i>)	
Parker, Wellesley & Co., London	160 17 1
(Security valued at 167 <i>l.</i>)	

Partly Secured.

	£ s. d.
Gerhardt, C. F., London	1,365 13 5
(Security valued at 1,231 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i>)	
Jenkin & Phillips, London	951 17 0
(Security valued at 452 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>)	
London City and Midland Bank, London	1,315 13 7
(Security valued at 300 <i>l.</i>)	
Rogers Brothers, London	81 10 6
(Security valued at 50 <i>l.</i>)	
Walker, H. & T., London	280 0 6
(Security valued at 256 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>)	
Webb, E., & Co. (Limited), London	318 17 8
(Security valued at 240 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>)	
Liabilities on bills...	1,763 7 10

Contingent.

	£ s. d.
Low, Sons & Bedford (Limited), London	146 5 4
My-name Soap Company, London	242 6 0
Saddington & Co., London	65 4 10
Thornc, C. H., & Co., London	94 1 11

Preferential.

	£ s. d.
Rent...	20 0 0

Mr. Hyde's separate creditors are as follows:—

Unsecured.

	£ s. d.
Fowler, J. T., & Sons, London	10 0 0
Marsh, L., London	114 10 3

Preferential.

	£ s. d.
Rent...	32 10 0

Mr. Nash's separate creditors are as follows:—

Unsecured.

	£ s. d.
Biggs, Dr., Clapham Junction	11 14 6
Bisney, F., Clapham Junction	10 0 0
Freeman, George, & Co., London	415 3 1
Holdsworth, M. E., Bradford	196 5 7
Kenningham, Mrs., Wandsworth	115 0 0
London, City and Midland Bank, London	26 0 0
Methley, Thos., & Co. (Limited), London	18 0 0
Nicholls, — Clapham Junction	18 0 0

Fully Secured.

	£ s. d.
British Empire Mutual Life Assurance Company, London	29 0 0

New Companies & Company News.

WHETSTONE PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKS (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business now carried on by B. Acres, and to carry on the business of manufacturers and dealers in photographic materials, accessories, and apparatus in all its branches. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 50*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the company.

PASTORELLI & RAPKIN (LIMITED).—Capital 7,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of A. J. V. Rapkin and R. H. D. Rapkin, manufacturers and importers of and dealers in scientific, optical, photographic, chemical, medical, and surgical instruments, appliances, materials, apparatus, and commodities, &c. A. J. V. Rapkin and R. H. D. Rapkin are managing directors, with 260*l.* each per annum. Registered office, 46 Hatton Garden, E.C.

ANTISEPTIC (LIMITED).—Registered in Dublin. Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire certain patents for the treatment of all animal and vegetable fibres, feathers, and such like, and to work and develop the same. The first directors are:—W. Pickering, 18 Dartmouth Square, Leeson Park, Dublin, merchant; W. H. McNight, 2 Manders Terrace, Ranelagh Terrace Road, Dublin, merchant; and L. R. Oswald Sealy. Registered office, 31 College Green, Dublin.

GRAPE-VINEGAR COMPANY (LIMITED).—A compulsory winding-up order was made against this company at the High Court of Justice on Wednesday.

PARKE'S DRUG STORES (LIMITED).—The directors announce the payment of a half-yearly dividend on the preference shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, payable on April 20.

SINGLETON & COLE (LIMITED).—The report of the directors for the year ended January 31 states that the profits, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts and depreciation, amount to 7,290*l.* This, added to the balance brought forward, makes 10,599*l.* An interim dividend of 5 per cent. per annum for the first six months was paid in September last, and the directors now recommend a dividend for the second six months of 7 per cent. per annum, leaving 3,399*l.* to be carried forward.

BARCLAY & SONS (LIMITED).—The annual report for 1900 states that the profit for the year—after writing off bad debts, making ample allowance for doubtful ones, and adding balance from 1899 (1871. 0*s.* 3*d.*)—is 3,573*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, out of which has been provided the interest on debentures and full dividends on the preference shares, amounting to 2,050*l.* 4*s.*, leaving an available balance of 1,523*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.*, out of which the directors recommend a dividend on the ordinary shares of 5 per cent. This will absorb 958*l.* 11*s.*, and leaves a balance of 564*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.*, of which 325*l.* is to be written off the capital account and 239*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* to be carried forward. The retiring director is Mr. A. E. Barclay, who, being eligible, offers himself for re-election. The meeting will be held at 95 Farringdon Street on April 26 at 3 P.M.

SECCO FILMS.—Under a winding-up order made recently against Secco Films (British and Colonial) (Limited), the first meetings of the creditors and shareholders were held on Tuesday, April 16, at the Carey Street offices of the Board of Trade. Mr. G. S. Barnes, senior Official Receiver, reported that the company was formed in July, 1899, with a nominal capital of 100,000*l.* to acquire the patent-rights relating to an invention of Mr. Oswald Moh, of Gorlitz, for improvements in photographic films, and to carry on the business of dealers in photographic apparatus and materials. He detailed the history of the company, as already recorded in

the *C. & D.*, and added that during September and October, 1900, attempts were made to raise 5,000*l.* additional capital by the issue of debentures, but they were unsuccessful, and in December, 1900, the company ceased to carry on operations. Accounts had been lodged showing liabilities 1,823*l.*, against assets 2,074*l.*, and a total deficiency of 88,043*l.* to the contributors. The creditors nominated Mr. Percy Ravenscroft for the post of liquidator, but no resolution was passed by the shareholders.

SOUTHALL BROTHERS & BARCLAY.—Mr. Thomas Barclay presided at the meeting of this company held on April 11 at Birmingham. In recommending the report (see *C. & D.*, April 13, page 593) for adoption, the Chairman mentioned that the profits were in excess of those of any previous year. For many years past the business had shown a steady increase both as to sales and profits, the gross sales for each of the last two years having been about 10 per cent. over those of each preceding year. The 20-per-cent. additional turnover had necessitated an increase in the capital employed in the business in the way of plant, fixtures, stock, and the amounts due from customers; but the amount for building, plant, and stock in the balance-sheet (91,205*l.*) included the outlay at Saltley and on the new business which had recently been acquired. This business was the first of its kind, and was similar to that they were establishing at Saltley. The wisdom of its acquisition was already justified, and in the opinion of the directors the trade-name was such a valuable asset that they considered it ought to be preserved, and for trade reasons, the Saltley business being of the same class, they thought it would be wise that the two should be carried on under the same name. As the business was continually growing, it would very soon be necessary to provide additional capital for the amount already expended and for its further development. There would have been a larger profit because of the increased returns but for the advance in the price of raw material used in the manufacture of surgical dressings and other specialities. There had also been a great advance in the price of glass-bottles, tinware, and earthenware used in the packing of drugs and preparations, for which no charge could be made. The buildings at Saltley were now completed, and, with some exceptions, the machinery and plant installed and in working order. They consumed such large quantities of absorbent-wool bandages, &c., that they would be able to take a large proportion of the production of the Saltley Mills for their own departments in the Priory, and they would protect the business by keeping the manufacture of their specialities in their own hands. Mr. Alfred Southall seconded the motion. Mr. J. A. Jones suggested that a smaller dividend might be paid to the ordinary shareholders, so that something might be set aside towards wiping off the item of 56,449*l.* for goodwill and patents; but the Chairman reminded Mr. Jones that they had bought a business and paid for the goodwill out of profits. Their position, he added, was different from most businesses, inasmuch as the directors held all the ordinary shares, and they alone were affected by the amount of goodwill. The best thing they could do was to build up a reserve fund, and the amount now standing at the credit of that fund (5,000*l.*) had been saved out of profits. Mr. J. K. Andrews said the interests of the shareholders were adequately secured by the fact that the solid assets of the company were considerably in excess of the amount of the preference shares. In addition to holding all the ordinary shares the directors also held a large proportion of the preference shares, so that those who held 40,000*l.* or 50,000*l.* outside had their capital adequately secured. Thereafter the report was adopted. Mr. A. H. Southall was re-elected a director, and Messrs. Howard Smith, Slocombe & Co. were reappointed trustees.

IN the pupa stage the Hessian fly can scarcely be distinguished from a flax-seed.

GETTING EVEN.—Little Boy: I want a dose of castor oil. Druggist: Do you want the kind you can't taste? Little Boy: No, sir. It's for mother.—*Western Argus (Kalgoorlie).*

WHAT DID HE MEAN?—A subscriber sends us a country wholesale druggists' billhead, part of which reads as follows: "Dealer in all kinds of horse and cattle medicines. Dressings; Antiseptic and otherwise. Depot for all skin-diseases."

Festivities.

ADVERTISERS' PROTECTION SOCIETY (LIMITED).

The first annual general meeting and dinner of this Society was held at Frascati's Restaurant on April 11, Mr. W. B. Warren (Burge, Warren & Ridgley, druggists' sundriesmen and surgical-instrument makers, Great Saffron Hill, E.C.) in the chair. There were present, amongst others, Mr. John Wylde (Thomas Keating), Mr. Page Woodcock (Lincoln), Mr. J. A. Frolich (Eucryl, Limited), and the representative of Mr. Peter Möller. The Society has, we are told, already accomplished some good work for its members by giving information regarding circulations, prices, &c., of various papers, that being the principal object of its existence.

MASONIC INSTALLATION BANQUET.

At the Freemasons' Tavern on Monday evening, April 15, Mr. A. W. Gerrard, pharmaceutical chemist, was installed as Worshipful Master of the Galen Lodge. Mr. F. Bascombe, F.I.C., acted as installing master, and performed the duties of the office in a most satisfactory manner. Mr. W. Ralph Dodd, pharmaceutical chemist, was the assistant steward. After his installation the Worshipful Master nominated Mr. E. J. Eastes, F.I.C., Senior Warden; Mr. T. H. W. Idris, Junior Warden; Mr. C. J. Strother, Senior Deacon; and Mr. J. J. Arrow, Junior Deacon. At the banquet which was subsequently held apologies were intimated from Colonel Clifford Probyn, I.P.M., and Mr. Michael Carteighe, Treasurer of the lodge, who wrote from Venice expressing regret that he could not be present at the installation. An excellent musical programme was arranged, under the direction of Mr. G. F. Smith, as a pleasant set-off to the speeches.

WESTERN CHEMISTS' SMOKER.

The members of the Western Chemists' Association of London had an enjoyable smoking-concert at the Westbourne Restaurant, 1 Craven Road, W., on April 17, Mr. H. Cracknell (President of the Association) in the chair. The attendance was a record one, amongst those supporting the chair being Vice-President Allen, Mr. Walter Hills, Alderman Nelson Watts, and others. The programme, as usual, was first-class. The Court Part-singers (Messrs. Percy Coward, Elliston Webb, Frank Peskett, and Henry Prenton) collectively and individually well sustained the reputation they have acquired. Some excellent violin soli were contributed by M. Eugène Meier (whose "Mazourka Brilliant" is worth hearing), and Mr. Fred Rome and Mr. Henry Prenton evoked irrepressible laughter with their humourousities. Mr. Frank Peskett manipulated the piano. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and the committee are to be congratulated on the two very successful concerts they have arranged this season.

BRADFORD CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual dinner of this Association was held on April 16 at the County Restaurant, Bradford, Mr. R. W. Silson (President) in the chair. Amongst those present were the Mayor of Bradford, Mr. J. Rymer Young (Warrington), Mr. W. S. Thompson (Halifax), Mr. Geo. Walker (Dewsbury), Mr. F. W. Branson (Leeds), Mr. S. N. Pickard (Ossett), Mr. W. Stead (Heckmondwike), Mr. Geo. Squire (Sheffield), Mr. R. Broadhead (Batley), and others. After the loyal toasts had been honoured,

Mr. A. H. Waddington proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society." He referred first to the jubilee of the Society and to the fact that Mr. Elias Bremeridge, one who had taken a part in the establishment of the Society sixty years ago, was still living. There never was a time when the Society so much needed and desired the support of the trade. At present it had not the support of all the trade, but he thought, however, that was very much the state of affairs that obtained at the present time in connection with all voluntary organisations, whatever trade or profession they might be connected with. There could not possibly be any doubt but that the Society had wakened up and gone forward in recent years, and a great deal of history had been made in that time. They were proud that the year had witnessed the election of the first provincial President of the Society, and that that President was a representative of a Yorkshire town. He had been very pleased with the energy which the

members of the Council displayed. Hardly had there been an annual meeting or dinner of any one of the associations at which some member of the Council had not been present, and he was quite sure that the result of this would be an increase of membership. Referring to the Pharmacy Bill, he said that they had got to the end of possibilities of additions to it by result of discussion. If they quibbled about its provisions any longer it was quite certain that there would be no chance whatever of getting any legislation through the Houses of Parliament.

Mr. J. Rymer Young, responding, said he had no hesitation in assuring captious critics that whatever had been done during the past thirty or forty years in the interests of the drug-trade had been done entirely and absolutely by the Pharmaceutical Society. For the first thirty years of its existence the Society was carried on by private enterprise, and yet the whole trade was now benefiting by the expenditure and experience of the gentlemen who conducted that undertaking at their own cost. During the last six or eight years the examination system had been revised; carbolic acid had been added to the schedule. Lastly, by a magnanimous act the Society had handed over the power, which was undoubtedly its own right, because it had paid for that power, to the Vandals, the Goths, the Huns, the Picts, and the Scots, for, as some people would say, pillage, ravage, and destruction, but, as he would prefer to put it, for such introduction of new blood and modern ideas as would strengthen and revivify that Society, and put it upon a firmer basis than ever. Of course, the new Pharmacy Bill was a compromise. No Bill of any importance could now pass the House of Commons unless it was a compromise. The one great bone of contention, of course, was the clause relating to qualified directors. Upon that subject the differences of opinion were most painful. The trade journals advocated three different policies. They had to consider not only what they would desire, but what it was possible to get, and upon this point he claimed that the Council was really in a better position to judge than the general body of chemists. They must be content to take what they could get. If the Pharmacy Bill was to have any chance at all, it could only be because chemists presented a united front. Already there were signs of discord, particularly in North-East Lancashire, which gave him great concern, and were rather calculated to take the heart out of one.

Other toasts honoured were those of "The Bradford and District Chemists' Association," proposed by Mr. Young, and responded to by Mr. F. A. Wilcock; "The City and Trade of Bradford," proposed by Mr. F. W. Branson, and responded to by the Mayor; "Kindred Associations," proposed by Mr. W. Brinson, and responded to by Mr. Walter Stead and Mr. Geo. Squire; and "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. R. H. Marshall, and responded to by Mr. W. S. Thompson and Mr. H. England.

DINNER AT BRISTOL.

The annual dinner of the Bristol Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Royal Hotel on Wednesday evening, April 17, under the presidency of Mr. Turner. Amongst the visitors were Messrs. J. Paul Bush and J. Dacre, representing the medical profession; Mr. Henry Gadd (Exeter), Dr. E. H. Cook, Messrs. B. John (Bath), J. Chandler and Thorne (Western dental dépôt). Mr. B. Allen occupied the vice-chair. After the loyal toasts proposed by the chairman, Mr. Keen gave "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain," and, referring to its diamond jubilee, said, after sixty years of such experience as they had had, they looked forward with confidence to the future work of the Society. (Applause.) Mr. Atkins responded, and said that what might be done in the way of realising and recognising the diamond jubilee of the Society was, he believed, yet under consideration. They had a record of which he was not ashamed. His memory extended over the whole period of the life of the Society, and he recollects condition of things existing in pharmacy—hardly worthy of the name of pharmacy, the business of chemists and druggists—many years ago. Regarding the position of to-day—he was not now speaking of the commercial point of view—but educationally, scientifically, ethically, the change was one that was absolutely incredible. The Society had done a great deal for the body politic. They were formerly a series of disintegrated atoms, rarely communicating with each other; and changes that

had come over life and commerce had changed the entire relation of one chemist to another. The Society had done much for the trade, and had raised the position of members. They had secured the respect and esteem of the medical profession. It was not the province of chemists to prescribe, and he did not think it was the province of the medical profession to dispense; and if they could all more and more press to that ideal, the honourable difference between prescribing and dispensing, they would have a much happier solution of the difficulties of the present day. (Applause.)

Mr. R. Bremridge also replied.

Mr. Harold E. Matthews submitted "The Medical Profession."

Mr. J. Paul Bush replied. He said the time had arrived when medical men should give up dispensing altogether, and there ought to be no prescribing by chemists. He recalled experiences he had had in South Africa during the war, saying that our hospital arrangements were excellent.

Mr. J. Dacre also replied.

Mr. A. Hagon (Cardiff) proposed "The City and Trade of Bristol," whose enterprise in regard to Jamaica he admired. He regretted that the Commission did not report on pharmacy. Could they not send pills to Jamaica? He was sorry Bristol had initiated cutting of prices in pharmacy.

Dr. E. H. Cook having responded, Mr. Henry Gadd submitted "The Bristol Pharmaceutical Association," and Mr. Keen replied, saying it would soon be time for the Pharmaceutical Conference to come to Bristol.

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO ALDERMAN DECK.

The members of the Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association gave a complimentary dinner to Mr. Alderman A. Deck, F.C.S., at the Bull Hotel, Cambridge, on April 11, Mr. A. Sidney Campkin, J.P. (President of the Association), in the chair. There was a large attendance and the President, in proposing "Our Guest," remarked that Alderman Deck was a man of considerable originality. For some forty or fifty years Alderman Deck had been a prominent figure in their pharmaceutical life, and also in the public life of the borough. From 1893 till the end of 1900 Alderman Deck was the President of the local Association. They were thankful to their guest for what he had done as one of the senior members of the craft, or profession, and they felt that in him they had a good figurehead. On behalf of the members of the Association he presented to Alderman Deck an illuminated address, an armchair, and a silver drinking-cup. The following is a copy of the address:—

CAMBRIDGE PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

To ALDERMAN A. DECK, F.C.S.,
Pharmaceutical Chemist.

The undersigned members of the above Association, with other friends, take this opportunity of expressing to you their appreciation of your services to the cause of pharmacy, both as local Secretary and as President of the Pharmaceutical Association since its formation in 1893.

We trust you may still be long spared to continue to enjoy the respect and esteem of your fellow-workers in pharmacy, and also in the public life of Cambridge.

The toast was honoured with much enthusiasm.

Mr. Alderman Deck, in response, said he was afraid his services had been overrated. As his father was one of the founders of the Pharmaceutical Society, in conjunction with Jacob Bell, Peter Squire, John Savory, and others, he had always taken a deep interest in it. He supposed he must now consider himself one of the patriarchs of the Society, having passed his examination in 1853. The local branch of the Society was flourishing, and he thought they would all agree that, although rivals in business, they were all on good terms with each other, and their social gatherings were very amicable.

The other toasts, in addition to the loyal toasts given by the President, included:—"The Pharmaceutical Society," proposed by Mr. H. J. Pearson, and acknowledged by Mr. E. Saville Peck; "The Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association," proposed by Mr. C. S. Addison, and responded to by Mr. H. F. Cook and Mr. Bernard S. Campkin; "The Medical Profession," proposed by Mr. E. H. Church, and responded for by Dr. E. Lloyd Jones, Mr. Hubert Higgins, and Mr. F. E. Aphorpe Webb; "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. A. Deck, jun., and acknowledged by Mr. Alderman G. B. Finch

and Mr. A. Macintosh; and "The Chairman," proposed by Mr. W. L. White.

EDINBURGH ASSISTANTS' SUPPER.

The annual supper of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association took place on April 12. Mr. David Harley (President) occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. C. B. Allen, Mr. Peter Boa, Mr. W. L. Currie, Mr. George Lunan, and Mr. J. P. Gilmour. Messrs. James Lennox and J. G. Slater acted as croupiers. After supper Mr. C. F. Henry proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society and the Board of Examiners for Scotland." He said they had never before been honoured with the presence of either the President or Vice-President at any of their gatherings, and rejoiced that the Vice-President had delayed his departure in order to be present. There was a great C. B. in politics, but they also had a C. B. in pharmacy. They were glad to see him, and desired to give him a very cordial welcome. This was the diamond-jubilee year of the Pharmaceutical Society. Individuals who had reached the age of sixty years were often frail and decrepit, but they were glad the Society was still hale and hearty and full of vigour and good promise. The objects of the Society were good, and he could never understand those who held aloof. It was of interest to note that this was not only the diamond-jubilee year of the Society, but also the jubilee year of the North British Branch. The North British Branch was founded in 1851, and not, as some seemed erroneously to suppose, in 1886. It had done, and was still doing, good work in Scotland. Mr. C. B. Allen, in replying, said he felt somewhat in the position of the skeleton at the banquet, because he had come North on a mission specially affecting chemists' assistants, and had possibly had to act in a way towards some that might not induce them to regard him in a very kindly light. He had been pleased, however, to observe during the last three days they had many young men coming up for examination in the North who bid fair to become good pharmacists in the future. It would be sixty years on Monday next since the Society was formed, and now it possessed far-reaching powers and was in full vigour and vitality. Speaking then of the Pharmacy Bill, he said he could assure them the Council had devoted an enormous amount of time and their best ability to its consideration. It was a difficult matter to deal with, and the Bill was necessarily a compromise. Some were disposed to say "No surrender," but when they came to be practical they found they had to deal with those who had no sympathy, with questions of trade profits, and who demanded some practical proposal. He had observed that this Bill had the entire approval of a distinguished and well-known Scottish pharmacist, Mr. J. B. Stephenson. He had had a large experience of the work of the Society, and had been Chairman of the North British Branch, and he thought the approval of so eminent a Scottish pharmacist was significant and encouraging. The question of by-laws had been settled by the Scottish Courts, and doubtless the Council would act in accordance with that decision so long as the by-laws remained in their present form.

Mr. Boa said the North British Branch were doing their best to keep up the strength of the Society in Scotland, and there was no more loyal section of the Society than the North British Branch. Mr. Tocher proposed "The Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association," and the Chairman replied. Other toasts were "Kindred Associations," proposed by Mr. Rutherford Hill and acknowledged by Messrs. W. L. Currie, J. P. Gilmour, George Lunan, and G. H. C. Rowland. Songs, recitations, and instrumental pieces were contributed during the evening.

A COLD SOLUTION OF BORAX

is a valuable all-round stain-remover, and has the advantage of being non-corrosive.

OINTMENT FOR BLACKHEADS.

Salicylic acid	...	...	...	20 gr.
Boric acid	...	...	...	10 gr.
Eucalyptus oil	...	...	...	30 drops
Zinc ointment	...	...	...	½ oz.
Rose-water	...	...	...	½ oz.

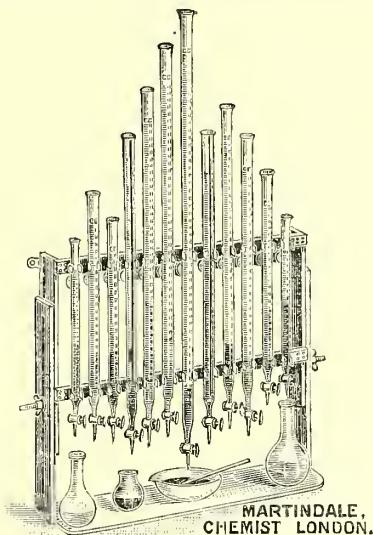
Mix.

Apply after bathing in hot water every night.

Novelties.

A NEW BURETTE-STAND.

DR. W. HARRISON MARTINDALE has designed a stand to carry a dozen or half a dozen burettes in the manner illustrated in the figure. It consists of a strong wooden frame with circular spring-clips, holding the burettes firmly when inserted, and from which they may be easily and rapidly removed, an adjustable shelf at the base holding the vessels during titration. Small bone tallies hang on the frame, enabling the



operator to note the solutions in the burettes. The stand is strongly made, and the frame which holds the clips can be moved up and down as desired. It is a clever and simple device, and as useful in practice as the ordinary circular stands. The stand is put on the market by Mr. W. Martindale, 10 New Cavendish Street, W., the smaller one being 17s. 6d. and the larger 25s., carriage paid.

DIABETIC FOODS.

Of all the ailing none are more to be pitied than those who are afflicted with diabetes, because in many respects they feel as well as healthy people (especially in the matter of appetite), but there is denied to them the "staff of life" in its full strength, and even when they get what are called "diabetic" foods they too frequently obtain articles containing an undue amount of carbohydrates. We therefore have pleasure in calling attention to the products manufactured by Messrs. Callard & Co., 65 Regent Street, W., some of which are free from starch and sugar. We would remark particularly upon the brown bread made by the firm, which is very palatable, and has all the appearance of ordinary brown bread, although it is free from starch, and when eaten it is satisfying. The gluten preparations contain a very small percentage of starch, the firm guaranteeing not more than 6 per cent., but in the sample of dinner rolls which we examined the starch was just a little over 4 per cent., and yet in the fresh state the rolls have all the appearance of good French bread and taste fairly like it. Apart from what we may call the more solid breads the firm make a good variety of biscuits, cakes, and even shortbread, so that the patients have an ample choice of what they long most for to pick from. Our examination of the products quite corroborates the claim of the firm that the gluten rolls are palatable and satisfying, and that they contain the minimum of starch. Most foods of this character have been shown to

contain up to 50 per cent. of starch, so that the users are practically wasting time in eating such bread. Subscribers who have diabetic customers would do well to get a sample tin of the products from Messrs. Callard.

HAY'S ESSENCES.

To Mr. William Hay, of Hull, belongs the credit, we understand, of having first put soluble essence of ginger on the market; therefore William Hay (Limited) have a reputation in the essence-line to sustain, and they do it. We have good evidence of that in several concentrated essences which we have examined. They are six altogether; in fact, a neat little box of samples, each bottleful sufficient to make a gallon of syrup, and any *bonâ-fide* aerated-water manufacturer abroad who reads this note can get one of the boxes sent to him free by parcel post by writing to Messrs. Hay (Limited), Hull, for it. We shall note the points of the essences briefly:—

Sol. Ess. Green Ginger.—Specially intended for making aerated ginger beer. Gives an opalescent beverage of agreeable pungency and lemon flavour.

Belfast Ginger-ale Essence.—A product which hits the mark admirably—is strong, of good flavour, fruity without being floral, and does not irritate the throat.

Soluble Essence Messina Lemon.—This is pure lemon in a highly concentrated and soluble condition.

Kola-champagne Essence.—A fruity preparation, which makes an exhilarating beverage destitute of the sickening synthetic flavours.

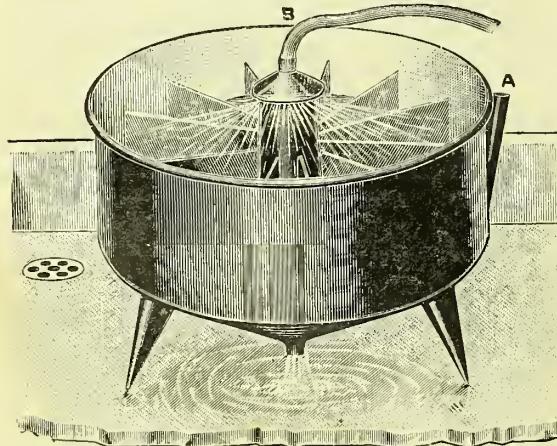
Orange-juice Champagne essence makes an attractive and novel beverage of unique flavour.

Cherry-cider Essence produces one of the class of beverages which children are so fond of. This essence has quite a nutty flavour, and seems to contain the minimum of arterial stimulants of the amyl order—an important consideration for children's drinks.

Messrs. Hay (Limited) supply labels and show-cards with some of these essences. We may add that the company have extended their laboratories and offices in Walmsley Street, Hull, with the special object of coping with their increasing export-trade, and for the benefit of our colonial readers the fact may be noted that all orders for 2 gals. and upwards may be shipped under bond, and in addition to their usual discount for prompt cash the company give a rebate of 10 per cent. on the soluble essences, and 5 per cent. on the ginger-ale extract is allowed from net amount of invoice, goods being f.o.b. London.

A NEW PHOTO-WASHER.

A C. & D. REPRESENTATIVE who called at Messrs. G. Houghton & Son's (88 and 89 High Holborn, W.C.) show-



rooms got a demonstration of the way the "V.H." washer is used for plates and prints. The washer has two separate actions, the illustration showing the way it works when

washing plates. The plates are arranged radially in the tank by means of grooves, and when the water is turned on it enters by the central column in a spray form. When the tank is full and the plates are entirely covered it is almost emptied by an automatic siphon. The filling and emptying goes on as long as the water-supply lasts. When it is desired to use the "V.H." washer for prints the indiarubber tube is connected at A, and the current of water keeps them going round and round. In this case the automatic-emptying arrangement does not come into play. The apparatus is one of the best washers yet brought out.

ROSE PHOSPHATES.

THIS is the title given to a children's tonic syrup by Messrs. A. Newton & Co., manufacturing chemists, Manchester. The active ingredients are phosphates of iron, lime and soda, and the syrup is coloured and flavoured with rose. As a set-off to Parrish's syrup it is excellent, and has the especial advantage of being free from astringent properties. Children take it even neat with readiness. Owing to the proprietary character of the preparation it requires to be stamped for retail. Half-pound bottles retail at 1s. 1½d. and the syrup can also be had in bulk for dispensing.

A "TABLOID" TONIC.

MESSRS. BURROUGHS, WELLCOME & Co.'s latest product is "Tabloid' iron-citrate compound," which is a good general tonic in the form of sugar-coated tabloids, each of which contains 3 gr. of citrate of iron and ammonia, 1 gr. of sulphate of quinine, and $\frac{1}{60}$ gr. of arsenious acid. It will be observed that this combination, while being serviceable generally as a tonic, is particularly useful when the blood is impoverished and there is any tendency to skin-eruptions. The tabloids are sent out in bottles containing twenty-five.

BILE-BEANS.

IF chemists and druggists of the British Islands are to know as much about bile-beans as their Australian brethren, they will be doing good business in them ere long. Everywhere over there it is "Bile-beans! Bile-beans!" Not long ago a Queenslander told us that he was having the front of his warehouse in Brisbane reconstructed, and one morning, while the workmen were at breakfast, the boarding attached to the building was entirely covered with bile-bean placards. It was the hugest advertisement that he had ever seen and all Brisbane laughed because our friend had to scrape the placards off. They have come over here now, and the Bile-bean Manufacturing Company, 119 and 120 London Wall, E.C., are pushing them, especially in the provinces. One of our staff called there the other day, and was shown very large orders from leading retailers; and apparently they have come to stay. The bile-bean is an oval pill, weighing about 3 gr. and coated with gelatin, put up in boxes to retail at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

ESSENCES, LIQUORICE, AND GRANULES.

IT is not generally known—although many well-known mineral-water makers are well aware of the fact—that Messrs. Jeancard, Gazan & Doumin, of 30 St. Mary Axe, E.C., have a complete line of soluble essences for mineral-water manufacture always in stock. Mandarin, elderberry, and all the better-known essences of guaranteed quality, are supplied in concentrated form. In connection with this well-known essential-oil firm, it is interesting to note that the Société Chimique de Paris has awarded the Pillet prize to Monsieur Satie, head of the firm's research-laboratory at Cannes. The Louis Pillet prize is intended for the best work in essential-oil research, and the papers which M. Satie has published during the past year in conjunction with M. Jeancard on the essential oils of geranium, jasmin, neroli, and

petitgrain, have been considered by the donor to be the most useful and practical. Messrs. Jeancard, Gazan & Doumin have recently introduced a new brand of liquorice juice, which they call "Nerolia." The firm are also putting before wholesalers a series of elegant pharmaceutical preparations in the form of dosimetric granules which they call "Capilets." These capilets, which have been used by French physicians for some time, are dainty and elegant in appearance—looking like a small-sized cachou—contain definite quantities of the various alkaloids, such as brucine, digitalin, euonymin, hyoscyamine, strychnine, the arseniates, and many others. Capilets of copaiba and copaiba combinations are slightly larger, but convenient for the waistcoat pocket, and the strength of the capilet is denoted by its colour. Capilets containing $\frac{1}{10}$ milligramme are coloured violet; $\frac{1}{4}$ mgrm., are green; $\frac{1}{2}$ mgrm., yellow; 1 mgrm., rose or white; and 1 centigramme, white.

PHYSIOLOGICAL MEDICINES.

WE have on several occasions had the opportunity of mentioning the work being done by Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., of Detroit and London, in meeting the demand by physicians and surgeons for definite remedial products suggested by physiological research, and obtained from animal or organic substances. The firm now submit to us through their London house samples of the latest things in this line which they have put upon the market. These include the suprarenal products upon which a communication was recently made to the Pharmaceutical Society by Mr. Thomas Maben, and reported in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of March 23, page 483. The suprarenal liquid with chloretoine contains the entire active principles of the suprarenal gland, and is a dark-coloured fluid. On the other hand, solution of adrenalin chloride (also made from the gland) is perfectly colourless, but has the same physiological properties as the gland itself. Both liquids are used as haemostatics, and for producing local anaesthesia, as well as for various surgical purposes.

Since we had occasion a few months ago of referring to the properties of mercurol, which is a combination of nuclein (obtained from yeast) with mercury, the remedy has been employed by Dr. Ramon Guiteras successfully in the treatment of urethritis, and it is also making steady headway as an antiseptic and germicide in the treatment of infectious urethral diseases. The product is now sent out in small vials, with a measure to hold 20 gr., which with 4 oz. of water makes a 1-per-cent. solution. The firm have also produced two similar compounds of silver and copper with nuclein. The silver compound (Ag=10 per cent.) is called nargol, and is a whitish powder which dissolves readily in water. Solutions varying in strength from $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 per cent. in recent cases, and 5 per cent. in old cases, of gonorrhœa have been successfully employed. Nargol is useful as an antiseptic and germicide in such troubles as purulent ophthalmia, and in diseases of the nose and thorax. Cuprol contains 6 per cent. of copper, and its properties are closely allied to those of the other metallic compounds of nuclein.

BULK PERFUMES.

MESSRS. AYRTON & SAUNDERS, Hanover Street, Liverpool, are making bulk perfumes a leading line just now, and send us specimens to judge of the quality. They are good, the odours being rich without any harshness, and we find that the residual odours are quite as pleasant as the second "whiff." Orchid is one that has taken our fancy. It is of good appearance, and would make a nice companion to Parme Violets. Samples can be obtained from the firm by buyers on application.

SUNDRIES.

MR. VINCENT WOOD informs us that he still holds the sole agency for the sale of the "Eureka" Crêpe Velpeau bandages for Great Britain and the colonies. Any report to the contrary is erroneous.

MESSRS. BERTIE SMITH & Co. (LIMITED), of Bombay, desire to make it known that they are in no way connected with the firm of B. Smyth & Co. (Limited), of Bombay Calcutta, and Glasgow, wine and spirit merchants, who failed recently.

THE arrangements for three well-established annual exhibitions are notified in our advertisement-pages. They are:—The Confectioners', Bakers', and Allied Traders' Exhibition, to be opened on September 7; the Grocery, which is to be held from September 21 to 28; and the Brewers', which falls on October 19. All are Agricultural Hall shows, and particulars can be obtained from the Secretary.

WE have received from Messrs. H. Gilbertson & Sons (Limited), of St. Andrew's Street, Holborn Circus, E.C., a copy of their new list of packed proprietaries. The list is nicely printed, and is illustrated throughout with engravings of the various specialities, which give an idea of the style of get-up and label. Certain proprietaries, such as ammonia, bay rum, Blaud's pills, brilliantine, corn-paint, &c., if supplied in lots of three dozen and upwards, may be obtained with the name and address of the customer printed on free.

MESSRS. F. SCHUTZE & Co., Southwark Street, S.E., report progress with the "Gegenuberdem Hansa Platz Eau de Cologne," the agency of which they hold. They give a case of medals and a giant bottle with certain quantities. The firm have rather a neat thing in the way of show-carboys—viz. a size to hold a quart of coloured liquid. They got the idea from an Australian pharmacist, who has placed a series of the carboys round the fixtures of his shop, each one being supported on a bronze bracket. Another item which the firm have introduced is Scotch-oatmeal soap, put up in tartan paper wrappers and boxes. The tartan is marvellous and strikes at some yards' distance, so that the effect of a windowful can be as well imagined as described.

Practical Notes and Formulae.

OAK-POLISH.

2 oz. of tallow, 1 oz. of beeswax, and 25 oz. of oil of turpentine, melted with a gentle heat and uniformly mixed, forms an excellent oak-polish. Depth of shade acquired by repeated application.

STAINING ONYX.

THE staining of onyx is well understood, and is now reduced to a certainty, so that it is said that any ancient and presumably natural tint can be artificially produced with great accuracy:—

Reds by means of pernitrate of iron.

Black by oil, honey, or sugar.

Blues by iron followed by ferro-cyanide of potassium.

Greens by nitrate of nickel.

Heat alone will often darken and improve the colour of an onyx.

Sulphuric acid will often improve the colour of an onyx when metallic oxides already exist within it.

Nitric acid will often pale an onyx.

The white or crystalline layers are seldom meddled with. They can only be slightly reddened superficially by painting with a solution of iron or a little thickened by heat or strong acid.—*Mr. Cyril Davenport, before the Society of Arts.*



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Lemongrass Oil—A Warning.

SIR,—My carman was loading to-day in front of my warehouse a truck with goods to take out, and having put one case containing lemongrass oil thereon, he turned round to load some more cases. He had not been absent a minute when the vehicle, *plus* the case, had disappeared. The truck—a derelict—*minus* the case of oil, has since been returned. It had the name on, and was deposited somewhere in Hackney.

Yours truly,
42 Wilson Street, April 13. LOUIS SCHLESINGER.

Dental Advertisements.

SIR,—I was much interested in Dr. Forshaw's letter on the above in your valuable paper. I have before me, as I write, a work entitled "The Surgical, Mechanical, and Medical Treatment of the Teeth"—a volume which contains 320 pages—by James Robinson, who describes himself as "Surgeon-dentist to His Royal Highness Prince Albert; Lecturer on the Physiology, Pathology of the Teeth; Honorary Doctor of Dental Surgery of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgeons." This work was issued in 1849, and the author states in the Preface that it is "submitted to the suffrages of the profession and the public." The volume throughout might be described as a gigantic advertisement, even though it was issued at the preclusive price of 10s.

Yours truly,
Hawley, April 8. CHAS. A. DARLINGTON.

Do you Know this Man?

SIR,—Will you allow me to warn chemists against employing a man named T. C. Smith, *alias* Thomas Cherry, of Cardiff and Wolverhampton. In answer to an advertisement in the *C. & D.* Supplement he applied for a situation, and I engaged him after receiving a testimonial purporting to come from John Williams, chemist, 276 Bute Street, Cardiff (written on a memo. form bearing that name and address), and which turns out to be a forgery written by Smith or an accomplice. He was put in charge of a branch, and in less than a week he was found drunk in the shop and some pounds wrong in his cash. He disappeared the next day. I have been in communication with the Cardiff police, and they inform me that last December he was there sentenced to two months' hard labour for larceny as a servant having robbed his employer of 8*l*. 10*s*. I append the police description of him for his better identification:—

Height, 5 feet 5*1/2* inches. Hair, dark-brown, and brown moustache. Nose, large. Complexion, fresh. Eyes, hazel and full, and a slight, hardly noticeable, "cast" in the left eye. Speaks with a slightly Scotch accent.

Yours truly,
1 Booth Street, Hulme. E. SANDERS.

[The only T. C. Smith on the register is Mr. Thomas Connell Smith, of Edinburgh, a partner in the firm of T. & H. Smith & Co. Needless to say he is not the person wanted. There is no Thomas Cherry on the register.—EDITOR.]

The Black Man's Samples.

SIR,—Probably we are not exclusively distinguished by the writer of the subjoined letter, received this morning, which is a fair sample of other recent communications from the same quarter of the world. The delightful absence of oversight in the little matter of stamping the letter, emphasised by the "Unpaid" written on the envelope, is fairly balanced by the "Esq." finishing the signature. This

enterprising gentleman well deserves such free advertisement as this notice may procure him.

Yours faithfully,

Dublin, March 27.

HARVEY & Co.

Elmina, February 27, 1901.

MY DEAR SIR,—I shall feel much obliged if you will be good and kind enough to forward me by the first mail a copy of your catalogue, samples, and price-list of your goods you have in hand to see how beautiful your samples are. Awaiting your prompt reply per any first returning steamer, and obliged.

With best compliments,

I am yours truly,

QUAMINA AMUASIE, Esq.,
Abakanu, Elmina.

[This letter was posted at Cape Coast, Gold Coast, on March 3, without a stamp. It is much to be desired that such requests as the above should not be acceded to.—EDITOR.]

Council Candidates.

SIR,—Referring to "Xrayser's" remarks upon my candidature in view of my previous correspondence, personally I adhere to the opinions therein expressed, and have done nothing to compromise them.

Both officially and otherwise I have made my position clear—viz., that if duly elected I am prepared to act on the Council. Whether it is the method of the Council or of the charter which is to hold the field has yet to be determined.

In the circumstances the members of the Society, who think I might do useful work on the Council, have adopted as their motto "In utrumque paratus."

Aberdeen, April 15.

JAMES PATERSON.

SIR,—The interest taken in the coming Council-election demands all the information we can possibly secure, in order to enable the electors to know the Society's history. Naturally, it would be expected that those we have entrusted with our confidence as our Council would obey the laws intended for guidance. Let us examine these laws carefully, in order to see how the case stands. I have called in question the legality of the appointment of the present Secretary, because our laws and constitution demand that he should be a member of the Society. There is another rule, that should any change in those laws be demanded thirty members were to send written notice of this to the Secretary, in the mode prescribed—any motion by a simple proposer and seconder would be contrary to the above rule. Mr. Jacob Bell, writing in his *Journal* for April 1, 1843, defined what a charter is, and how it is related to an Act of Parliament. He said:—

The primary effect of the charter is to confirm all that has been done by the Pharmaceutical Society. It is necessary to bear in mind the difference between a charter and an Act of Parliament. The charter defines the limits and constitution of the body on certain fixed principles, and in accordance with the existing state of the law. An Act of Parliament confers new powers, privileges, and immunities, which could not be obtained by charter, although they could be granted only to a body, the constitution of which is fixed. It must not be supposed that because we have obtained our charter the work is accomplished. We are still on the threshold of reformation, and it remains for us to apply our principles to practice in all their details.

Thus our laws and constitution were in no degree abrogated, but confirmed. The charter says "a proper person" is to be appointed secretary. What is a proper person? A person as defined by the rules.

[Mr. Mackenzie overlooks the most important point in this matter—viz., that before the charter was obtained the members of the Society had revoked the provision in the rules requiring the Secretary to be a member of the Society. This happened at the first annual meeting.—EDITOR, *C. & D.*]

Now let us look closer into the liberties of the members in general meeting assembled. Our founders began their work by a rule as follows:—

A general meeting of the members of the Society shall be held on the third Tuesday in May in each year to receive a report of the Council, and to discuss any matters of importance which may require the attention of the body at large.

Following this up by the Royal Charter we find:—

And we further will and declare that there shall be general meetings of the members of said Society, incorporated, to be held from time to time as hereafter mentioned, and our will and

pleasure is that all general meetings and meetings of the Council, the majority of the members present having a right to vote thereat respectively, shall decide upon the matters propounded to such meetings.

This is also on popular lines, and clear enough that the majority in each case shall decide. In the *Pharmaceutical Journal* for May, 1850, it is stated:—

We again remind the members that the present is the time appointed for the review of the proceedings of the past year. The Council will furnish the Annual Report on each topic introduced into the Report or connected with it, the members will have a full opportunity of eliciting any information that may be required, approving or censuring the acts of the Council, and offering suggestions for consideration.

Following these we come to the set of by-laws passed in 1898. Contrary to the established rule of the Privy Council, admitted at a similar meeting held in 1853 [No—the Society's solicitor. The Privy Council made the statement in 1836.—EDITOR], I presume this was unknown at the time.

In by-laws Section XX., headed "Annual and Special Meetings," we read:—

The Council shall meet previous to the annual general meeting and arrange the business to be transacted thereat, &c.

There our trusted Council distinctly refuse to trust the members as to the business to be brought before the meeting, but in the light of day coolly assume power to apply the office muzzle when they think fit. And yet we can find men in our ranks, at meetings throughout the country, called by the Council or Secretary to do the agreeable when they see that their seat or policy is in danger, and recommend that the whole of the seven members of Council who retire at this time should be re-elected in order to complete their work as seen in the draft Pharmacy Bill. Electors, is it desirable that we should be denuded of our rights? and that we should for a moment desire to place on the statute-book such a proposal for an Act of Parliament, which is fitly designed a Bill of fees and fetters. Where are our free men to-day? Did not King John have a lesson to learn? and did not King Charles lose his head in Whitehall for attempting to make the nation subsist for him, rather than that it should be him for the nation? So will our Council. They are only fit to rule, who can, for the common weal.

I remain, &c.,

Edinburgh, April 12.

JAMES MACKENZIE.

We have to acknowledge a letter from Mr. Charles J. Pickering, replying on his own behalf to the questions put by a correspondent last week for Mr. Gifford to reply to. Mr. Gifford's reply is embodied in his "views" on page 624.

The Pharmacy Bill.

Mr. James Paterson (Aberdeen) sends us a letter continuing his remarks on the Bill. He examines the phraseology of Clause 2 and Clause 7 (the directorate clause), pointing out that in the former the wording is "company, firm, co-partnership, or body of persons," and in the latter "any company incorporated under the Acts in force regulating joint-stock companies." What about the firm, co-partnership, or body of persons in the latter connection? There is no provision in the Bill for their qualifications. For aught it says they may be composed of registered and unregistered persons, all taking an active share in the business. It seems to me, continues Mr. Paterson, that Clause 7 would be open to this construction—viz., that in this Bill regulating company-pharmacy the only clause relating to limited companies is Clause 7, and, therefore, provided that all the directors are registered persons, they may carry on business without qualified assistants, or being required to register their shops. The non-dealing with firms, co-partnerships, or bodies of persons so as to place them in the same position as persons and directors is just another edition of the widows' clause, and will nullify the effect of the proposed legislation. The expression "like business" is not a happy one. What does it mean? That they may not be directors in a wholesale drug-company or in a company for manufacturing pharmaceutical preparations? Either a definition of the phrase should be inserted in the Bill, or such language employed in the clause as would make the intended meaning plain. A word in respect of the question as to whether this clause would restrict the qualification of

directors to the drug-departments of a mixed business, or extend it to the whole concern. The whole tenor of the remarks of the higher judges goes to show that in the working out of the Pharmacy Acts they are inclined to read into them only what they conceive to be necessary for the public safety, and in dealing with the Bill as drawn by the Council they would most probably confine the qualification to the oversight of the department, unless it is put in the Bill that it is the whole business they are to take charge of, and not the department merely.

Ergot Preparations.

SIR,—Your issue of February 23 contains an important paragraph (page 324) upon ergot preparations, and you invite your readers to comment upon the subject. I am not medical man, and therefore do not profess a general knowledge of the physiological action of ergot, but one case with which I am personally acquainted is that of an unmarried lady, aged 43, who for ten years has suffered with fibroid tumour in the uterus. The solid extract administered in pill form always brings about the desired result, whilst the ordinary commercial fluid extract is valueless in this case, but curiously enough, if Parke, Davis & Co.'s fluid extract be employed the effect is magical.

Faithfully yours,

FREDERICK DAVIS.

Imperial College of Chemistry, E.C.

SIR,—A few weeks ago you invited communications on those preparations of ergot which had been found most reliable and active. This note is submitted, not presuming in any way to be of the nature which might be expected from, and could be gained by, a medical man who is able to watch more closely the action of drugs administered, but simply as the result of observation by a hospital-dispenser. As will be understood, some opinion may be formed concerning the value of a drug by the length of time it is being taken by a patient, and ergot is a medicine invariably resorted to more or less suddenly as required by the urgency of the case, and as suddenly discontinued. Where blood-spitting occurs as the result of severe coughing the writer has known 10-minim doses of the liquid extract of ergot, given every four hours, sufficient to arrest it after the third dose, but in cases of uterine haemorrhage a dose of 40 minims given every four hours, and continued for eight or ten days, is sometimes apparently useless. In obstinate cases of this sort, after all other preparations of ergot have been used, and other remedies, the writer has known the ammoniated tincture to act like a charm. This preparation deserves to be more widely known and used, for one bottleful of ten doses, each dose containing 40 minims of the tincture, has been sufficient in numerous instances to cause contraction, and thereby check the hemorrhage. It would appear that the alkali, combined with the alcohol, is of great influence in exhausting the full properties of this drug, for no other preparation appears to be so active—ergot being excepted, of the value of which the writer has had no experience.

Yours truly,

F. C. (103/59.)

Dispensing Notes.

A section for the elucidation of difficulties and interchange of views on dispensing-problems.

75/65. A. N. & Co.—The prescription is an improper one, and should not be dispensed.

Awkward Applications.

Observer (91/45) has had the following prescription to dispense:—

Thiol ...	...	...	...	...	3j.
Zinci oxid.	...	...	...	...	3iiss.
Landolin.	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Ol. olivæ	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Aque calcis	...	...	...	...	3ss.

Ft. ung. Mitte 3vj.

He first rubbed down the powdered thiol well, then in a separate mortar thoroughly emulsified the oil and aquæ calcis,

added it little by little to the thiol, and thoroughly mixed it by rubbing well. He then rubbed down the oxide of zinc, and little by little incorporated it with the thiol-oil emulsion, &c. After rubbing down the lanolin, he added it to the other ingredients by constant stirring. By this means he produced a fairly good preparation, but the thiol has separated in spots.

[We find the best method of dealing with prescriptions of this kind is to triturate the zinc oxide and lime-water in a mortar, add all the oil and lanoline (previously making the latter smooth and thin with part of the oil on a slab), and triturate lightly. This makes a beautiful cream. Then add the thiol (in fine powder) or ichthylol, as may be ordered. The last addition deteriorates the perfection of the preparation, and watery fluid tends to separate, carrying with it some of the thiol or ichthylol; but still it is fairly passable, and may be sent out. These formulæ are often much improved by a little more oil or lanoline. In this case another $\frac{1}{2}$ dr. each of lanoline and olive oil improve the product.]

A Question of Bulk.

SIR,—Will you please say what the doctor means in enclosed prescription? Is 5ij. of water to be used, or each dose made "ad 5ij."?—

Quin, sulph. ...	...	...	...	gr. ij.
Ferri sulph. ...	...	...	...	gr. ij.
Magnes. sulph. ...	...	...	...	5j.
Acid. sulph. dil. ...	...	...	...	mx.
Syrup. ...	...	...	...	5j.
Aq. ...	...	...	...	5ij.

M. Ft. mist.

Mitte 5vij. Thrice daily in water.

Yours, &c.,

DISPENSER. (83/63.)

[The rule is in such cases as the above to dose up to the nearest convenient quantity—in this case 5iv. The dose will probably be almost exactly that quantity when made up.]

Percentage-solutions.

SIR,—Would you kindly say how the preparations ordered herewith should be dispensed? Should the menstrua be weighed or measured?

Acid. carbolic. ...	...	...	...	5 per cent.
Æther. ...	...	...	...	5j.
M.				
Acid. carbolic. ...	...	...	...	5 per cent.
Vaselin. ...	...	...	...	5j.
M.				
Acid. carbolic. ...	...	...	...	5 per cent.
Aquaæ ...	...	...	...	5j.
M.				
Acid. carbolic. ...	...	...	...	5 per cent.
Ol. olivæ ...	...	...	...	5j.
M.				
Acid. carbolic. ...	...	...	...	5 per cent.
Glycerini ...	...	...	...	5j.

Yours truly,

A. D. (86/23.)

[In prescriptions such as the examples given above true percentage-solutions are not intended, and the general rule of dispensers in this country of "solids by weight, liquids by measure," should be followed—that is, grains or fluid grains of the medicament to grains or fluid grains of the basis. This will not be a true percentage, which would be x parts by weight in 100 parts by weight of the finished product. See "The Art of Dispensing" and Mr. Dudderidge's paper in the *C. & D.*, March 16, page 451.]

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

119/32. *Fumagine*.—We regret that we cannot assist you further in the matter.

122/30. *W. L. L.*—Thanks. The office-boy must have had carmine on the brain when he wrote the card.

126/16. *J. B.*—You cannot get a clear solution of sub-nitrate of bismuth in distilled water without using excess of nitric acid.

119/34. *J. B. B.*—"Pharmaceutical Formulas" is full of recipes (5,000, or thereabouts) and gives hints as to putting up specialities, but it does not deal with advertising. Goss's "*L. s. d.*" seems to be the kind of book you want.

119/41. *Belfast*.—The Society of Biological Research is, we are informed, a small association devoted to certain branches of chemistry, and connected with a school of pharmacy. It is not, therefore, of international or national importance.

131/51. *Regulus*.—Plasmon is the nitrogenous constituents of milk in a soluble and assimilable form. Lactose is the sugar of milk.

129/66. *More to Follow*.—We presume that your query is intended to reflect upon the Council candidate, but you do not say that he sends a man to solicit orders from small shopkeepers; you merely ask if it is professional for a chemist to do so, leaving the sting upon the Council-candidate. We do not think this is fair criticism.

132/35. *A. E. B.*—The Westminster College of Pharmacy and the West of Scotland School of Pharmacy offer instruction by correspondence to pharmaceutical students; but we think a preliminary knowledge of botany is best obtained by reading books on the subject.

130/26. *D. W.*—*Essence of Lemon*.—The best essence of lemon is the pure oil of lemon, but in some parts of the country a solution of the oil in spirit (1 in 10) or in tincture of lemon-peel is sold.

124/39. *Medico*.—A medicine-chest guide, such as is sold by Mr. Silverlock, is the simplest medical book you can recommend to your customer.

124/31. *Ruscombe*.—Blue Carboy-colour: a dilute solution of ammonio sulphate of copper in distilled water. Green Carboy-colour: a solution of nickel sulphate, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to the gallon of distilled water.

126/23. *Volta*.—Jones's "Medical Electricity," 10s. 6d. (Lewis), is the most modern work on the subject. In regard to your remarks about having to write twice before getting a reply to this question, we can only say that if you had turned up the index of the last volume it would not have been necessary to have written at all.

100/55. *A. W.*—*Cultivating Medicinal Plants*.—There is no guide-book published on this subject; successful cultivation of medicinal plants is only accomplished after years of experience, and even then the disappointments due to climatic influence are many. The following notes may help you:—*Aconite* is planted in October, and is propagated by dividing the tubers. The roots are gathered in the following autumn. *Chamomiles* are grown from seed in the first place, and then by dividing the roots. Planting is done in March or April, the plants being placed about 3 feet apart, and at 18-inch intervals; a stiff loamy soil is needed. *Peppermint*, *spearmint*, and *pennyroyal*.—A similar soil to that needed for chamomiles is necessary. The plants are propagated from runners which are drawn in the spring, and placed in rows, 12 to 18 inches apart. The crop is gathered in July or August. A good deal of hoeing is required to keep down weeds. *Lavender* is propagated by dividing the roots, and is planted 18 inches apart, but in the second year it is necessary to remove each alternate plant, as, if too close, unhealthy conditions are brought about. A rich soil is not needed, but only certain parts of England appear to be favourable to lavender-cultivation. *Squirtng cucumber* is grown from seeds sown in March. The seedlings are planted out in June. Much of the plant is, however, self-sown from the characteristic ejection of the seeds in the ripe fruit. *Henbane*.—The seeds of the biennial henbane are sown in the spring, the first year's leaves being radical. The following spring the plants are transplanted, and aerial stems are put forth to a height of 3 or 4 feet. *Digitalis* is grown from seeds, the seedlings being transplanted in May.

129/25. *E. H. R.*—*Syrupus Ficorum*.—The following formula, from an American source, is much better than the one you send:—

Figs	...	...	...	...	...	3vij.
Prunes	...	...	...	...	...	3iv.
Water	...	...	...	...	...	3xvj.

Make a decoction, strain, and add—

Tasteless fluid extract of cascara	...	...	3ij.
Fluid extract of senna	...	...	3x.
Oil of fennel	...	...	mx.
Oil of cinnamon	...	...	mxx.
Oil of cloves	...	...	mxv.
Tincture of capsicum	...	...	mxl.
Spirit of chloroform	...	...	3j.

Mix.

111/57. *R. H.*—*Combined Toning and Fixing Bath*.—The lead is not essential in this, but is thought to help in giving purple tones. There is a formula in the *C. & D.*, March 9, page 422, from which you can leave out the lead nitrate if you wish.

112/71. *J. P. P.*—*Fever-mixture*:—

Liq. ammon. acet.	...	...	...	3j.
Spt. aether. nit.	...	...	...	3iv.
Tr. ferri	...	...	...	mxl.
Spt. chlorof.	...	...	...	mxl.
Aq. camphoræ ad	...	...	...	3vij.

One-eighth part every four hours.

132/68. *J. R. S. W.*—*Carbolic Tooth-powder*.—Please refer to *C. & D.*, January 26, page 191.

114/33. *J. E. F.*—*Nit-ointment, non-poisonous*:—

Pulv. quassiae	...	...	...	3iv.
Paraff. mollis	...	...	...	3xv.
Cere flaveæ	...	...	...	3j.
Ol. origani	...	...	...	mxx.
Ol. verbeneæ	...	...	...	mx.

115/1. *Edma*.—Messrs. Bennett, Sons & Shears (Limited), 187 Kingsland Road, London, make a special apparatus for distilling aqua destillata on a small scale.

117/72. *Aniseed*.—(1) In regard to the legitimate use of the term "wholesale druggist," see *C. & D.*, November 17, 1900, page 822. (2) The *Polishing-p*reparation used also for lubricating is made by grinding kieselguhr with a cheap heavy paraffin oil. (3) *Starch-gloss*:—

Powdered spermaceti	...	...	3j.
Powdered borax	...	...	3j.
Starch	...	...	3iv.

Mix.

A teaspoonful of this powder is required to each tablespoonful of starch used.

113/28. *J. B.*—The chief photographic weeklies are *The British Journal of Photography*, 2d; *The Amateur Photographer*, 2d.; and *Photography*, 1d.; but none of them approaches photography from the dealer's point of view.

114/5. *H. H. D.*—*Books on therapeutics*.—See *C. & D.*, March 30, page 536.

111/10. *Simplex*.—(1) *Ice-cream*.—See *C. & D.*, September 15, 1900, page 485. (2) "How do I Stand?" is published by Mawson, Swan & Weddell, Newcastle-on-Tyne, but is out of print. Thornton's system of bookkeeping (*C. & D.*, March 9, page 410) is good.

133/43. *Repens*.—The contamination of beer with arsenic from coal or coke arises from the fumes of the latter getting into contact with the malt and hops when drying.

85/27. *C. S. G.*—*Books on Dentistry*.—Gorham's "Tooth-extraction," 1s 6d. (Lewis), and Barrett's "Dental Surgery," 3s. 6d. (Lewis), will suit you. For books on mechanical dentistry refer to *C. & D.*, December 1, 1900, page 898.

114/44. *Luda*.—The best Diluent for Saccharin for sprinkling on fruit-tarts would be powdered sugar of milk or rice-flour.

127/18. *Developer*.—Universal Developer to suit your label:—

Eikonogen	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Sodium sulphite	3iss.
Hot water	3vij.

Dissolve and add—

Potassium carbonate	3ij.
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For use dilute with an equal part of water, or more in the case of bromide prints.

104/32. *J. S. S.*—Salmon's "Synopsis Medicinæ," second edition, 1681, is priced in second-hand book-catalogues at from 2s. 6d. to 10s. The Pharmaceutical Society have only an imperfect copy of the third edition in their library.

109/50. *F. M.*—There is no published work on distinguishing commercial qualities of vanilloes, musk, and such-like perfumes. Sawyer's "Odorographia" (Gurney & Jackson) is an excellent compilation of what was known about raw perfume-materials up to 1892.

117/42. *J. W. A.*—Do you include the formulae for ginger-ale in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" amongst those you have found unsatisfactory? If so, please state wherein they did not meet your expectations.

117/36. *Spes*.—The careful application of liq. sodi ethylatis is effective in removing nævi from the face.

Information Supplied.

NOTE.—Subjoined are replies to queries printed in previous issues as indicated by the numbers. It is requested that any writing to the firms named will mention "The Chemist and Druggist" as the source of their information.

100/12. Paints, greases, &c., for theatrical artists are supplied by Messrs. Hovenden & Sons, 30-33 Berners Street, W.

117/54 Leichner's grease-paints are supplied by R. Hovenden & Sons, Berners Street, London, W.

117/33. Maker of Ford's Mother's Friend. Mr. Percy Bean, Textile Laboratory, 17 Dickinson Street, Albert Square, Manchester.

170/21. Makers of dionine-lozenges—Messrs. Charles Midgley (Limited), 23 St. Ann's Square, and Barton Arcade Manchester.

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

122/18. Maker of yellow-label arrowroot?

131/27. The name of maker of machinery for turning out paper bottle-caps.

113/15. Ice-machines on Professors Rollin and Wooster's, New York, system: who makes?

A SIMPLE FIRE-EXTINGUISHER may be made by dissolving 2 lbs. of common salt and 10 lbs. of ammonium chloride in 3 quarts of water and filling the solution into quart bottles of thin glass. The bottles must be tightly corked and sealed to prevent evaporation. At the breaking out of a fire the bottles are thrown into the flames or their vicinity.

WOULD NOT INTERFERE.—Mr. Justice Kekewich, sitting in the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on Thursday, had the case of Goodwin v. The Ivory Soap Company before him, the plaintiff asking his Lordship to review the taxation of costs. The case was heard in July last and plaintiff lost it, and a bill of costs amounting to 3,000*l* was brought in. This was upon taxation reduced to 2,400*l*. His Lordship declined to interfere, and dismissed the application, with costs.

Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

BOOTS (LIMITED) have opened a branch at 23 Russell Street, Stroud.

MR. BROOME has purchased the business lately carried on by Mr. H. Edwards at Caterham Valley.

MR. J. EDWARDS, of Portslade, Brighton, has bought the business of Messrs. Tottenham & Holmes at Brill.

MESSRS. HALL & CO have purchased the business of Mr. P. L. Blackmore, chemist, Turner's Hill, Cheshunt.

MESSRS. A. KENNEDY & CO., druggists' sundriesmen and perfumers, have opened new premises at 28 Hounds-ditch, E.C.

MR. J. EDMUNDS, dispensing chemist, has opened new premises at 11 Gloucester Terrace, Lea Bridge Road, Leyton, E.

MR. H. EDWARDS, chemist and druggist, Caterham Valley, has purchased the business of Mr. J. Cleghorn at Spring Grove, Isleworth.

MR. J. H. NEEDHAM has taken over the business lately carried on by Messrs. Eatough Bros. at 49 King William Street, Blackburn.

MESSRS. H. G. & R. CARSBERG, surgical-instrument manufacturers, have opened the premises at 103 St. John's Street Road, Clerkenwell, E.C.

MESSRS. OLIVER & CO, chemists, have taken the premises 19 Hertford Road, Edmonton, N., which they will occupy as soon as alterations are completed.

MR. PERCIVAL TRICK, chemist and druggist, has taken premises at Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C., which he will occupy immediately upon completion.

MR. J. TINNIS, chemist, 60 Mason's Hill, Bromley, Kent, has purchased Mr. Bullock's business at High Street, Beckenham, now making the fifth business he has.

MR. JABEZ A. JONES, chemist and druggist, formerly of 143 Clifton Street, Cardiff, has removed to new and more commodious premises at 2 Four Elms Road, Cardiff.

MESSRS. BISHOP & SON, chemists, Bridge Street, Southampton, desire us to contradict the rumour which they say has been circulated that their business is in the market.

MR. T. MEREDITH, late of Reddish, has purchased, through Messrs. Oldfield, Pattinson & Co., the old-established business at Golborne recently conducted by Mr. R. L. Pennington, retired.

MESSRS. AUSTIN & CO., late of 8 Greville Street, Holborn, E.C., and 2 Broad Yard, Turamill Street, E.C., have removed to Greville Works, Denmark Road and Cloudesley Road, Islington, N.

MESSRS. DOWLING & SON, chemists and druggists, formerly of King's Road, Reading, have removed to more convenient and centrally-situated premises in the Market Place, Reading.

MR. W. BODMIN JONES, many years manager to Messrs. Crane & Co., chemists, Lambeth Walk, S.E., has purchased the chemists' business of Messrs. Allison & Co., 66 Kennington Park Road, S.E.

MR. BROWN, who has been managing the business of Mr. J. Munday, High Street, Cardiff, under Court authority, has purchased the business of Mr. H. Vernon Truman, chemist, at 49 Bull Ring, Ludlow.

FOR the twelve months ended December 29, 1900, the imports of drugs and chemicals into New South Wales amounted in value to 445,198*l.*, against 547,533*l.* for the corresponding period in 1899: opium to 30,304*l.*, against 28,686*l.*; and explosives to 97,374*l.*, against 132,930*l.* The exports of drugs and chemicals for the two years were respectively valued at 121,767*l.* and 142,579*l.*

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: April 18.

THE markets are still sluggish, and no perceptible improvement in the demand for drugs and chemicals can be reported. Where possible buying orders for crude drugs are being held over for the sales next week which are likely to be voluminous. Cinchona met with a brisk demand in auction, and the unit slightly improved. Quinine, however, remains neglected, though perhaps the tendency is a shade firmer in second-hands. American oil of peppermint has been in improved demand at higher rates. On the other hand menthol and thymol are lower. Cod-liver oil is weak and inactive. Opium is dearer. Jamaica ginger was dearer in auction, and there is more doing in pepper at firmer prices. The following table shows the principal changes of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Ginger	Cinchona		Ammonia sulphate
Oil, linseed	Coriander		Benzols
Oil, peppermint	Linseed		Golden seal
Opium	Pepper		Menthol
	Quinine		Oil, cod-liver
			Shellac
			Thymol
			Tragacanth

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from April 11 to 17 (both days inclusive):—Acid, acetic (@ Hamburg), 10 brls.; acid, citric (@ Bordeaux), 15 cks.; acid, salicylic (@ Ostend), 5; acid, tartaric (@ Bari), 22; aloes (@ Aden), 5 cs.; arrowroot (St. V.), 492; arsenic, (@ Melbourne) 90 cks., (@ Oporto), 91 brls.; benzoin (@ Singapore), 16; bird-lime, 50; buchu, 36; calumba (@ Trieste), 229; cardamoms, 60 cs. 14 bgs. 27 pkgs.; castor oil (E.I.), 52; cinchona, (@ Ceylon) 64 bgs., (@ Batavia), 50 bgs.; cocaine, crude (@ Callao), 8; cod-liver oil, (@ Hamburg) 10, (@ Drontheim) 10, (@ Aalsund) 397, (@ Bergen), 71; dragon's blood, 7; drugs, (@ Hamburg) 13 pkgs., (@ Trieste), 74 pkgs.; galls (Chin.), 342; gamboge (@ Singapore), 10; ginger, (@ Hong Kong) 309 pkgs., (@ King-ton) 1,187 brls., (@ Bombay) 750 bgs. 177 cs., (@ St. Lucia), 10 bgs.; glycerin (@ Naples), 40 drms.; hellebore-powder 20; gum arabic, (@ Alexandria) 100 pkgs., (@ Bombay), 169 pkgs. 24 cs.; gum, olibanum, 225 cs.; gum, unenumerated, (@ Sydney) 9, (@ Adelaide), 10 bgs.; honey, (Jam.) 332 pkgs., (@ W.C.S.A.) 6 cs. 25 brls., (Aust.) 80 cs., (@ N.Y.), 184 cs.; lime-juice, (@ Halifax) 35 cks., (@ Kingston) 13 pns., (@ Dominica), 12 brls.; lime oil (W.I.), 7; musk, (@ Bremen) 1, (@ Grenada), 1 box; oil, essential (@ Boulogne) 10 cs., (@ Messina) 97 pkgs., (@ Genoa), 19; oil, eucalyptus (@ Adelaide), 29 cs.; oil, peppermint, 20 cs.; oil, wood, 3; opium (@ Smyrna), 165; potash chlorate (Swed.), 70; quicksilver (Span.), 5,000; quinine (@ Amst.) 5 cs., (@ Batavia), 150 cs.; rose oil (E.I.), 2; rosemary oil, 2 cs.; saltpetre, (@ Antwerp) 135 bgs., (@ Calcutta) 2,651 bgs., (@ Hamburg) 11 brls. 8 cks.; sarsaparilla (@ Panama), 7; senna, (@ Suez) 38, (@ Bombay), 39; shellac, (@ Calcutta) 889 chts., button, 429 chts.; tamarinds, (@ Antigua) 75, (@ at Barbados), 155 brls.; turmeric (@ Bombay), 319 bgs. 70 cs.; wax, bees', (@ Lisbon) 3, (@ Sydney) 27, (@ Jam.) 12 brls., (@ Coquimbo) 9, (@ Aust.) 5, (@ Dusseldorf), 110 bgs.; wax, Japanese (@ Kobe), 25.

Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, April 17, 12.20 P.M.:—The drought in the interior continues, and prospects for the coming crop are unfavourable. This fact has induced speculators to enter the market, and prices have advanced, 9s. to 9s. 6d. per lb., f.o.b., being quoted according to quality.

* * * *

BERGEN, April 18, 11.50 A.M.:—The fishing at Finmarken has opened with good prospects. The total catch up to date amounts to 27,447,000 cod, against 22,250,000 at the corresponding period of last year. This is expected to yield 25,903 barrels of oil, against 21,321 barrels. The tone of the market is again weaker, and there are now sellers of Lofoten non-freezing oil at 59s. per barrel, f.o.b., Bergen.

* * * *

HAMBURG, April 18, 2.10 P.M.:—Jalap is firmer, at 120m. per 100 kilos. Refined camphor is firmer, at 460m. per 100 kilos., which figure has been paid. Condurango-bark is firm, at 100m. per 100 kilos.

* * * *

NEW YORK, April 18, 3.45 P.M.:—The market-tone is quiet. Opium is stronger, at \$3.27 per lb. Buchu is firm, at 29c. per lb. Golden-seal is weak, at 50c. per lb.; but Jalap is firmer, at 13c. per lb. Euonymus-bark is scarce, and 18c. per lb. is now wanted. Grains of Paradise are advancing, and 25c. per lb. is now quoted.

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market centres other than London.]

A very quiet tone is still the prevalent feature of the heavy-chemical market, and there appears to be little likelihood of any general improvement of moment. At the principal centres—the Tyne, the Clyde, and Lancashire districts—matters are all about the same. In spite of the general slack demand, prices do not appear likely to decline to any extent.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Business in this branch is practically unaltered from the position in recent reports. Bleaching-powder is very quiet, and has easier tendency, but makers' prices are kept up. Caustic soda quiet, at unchanged rates.

COAL-TAR PRODUCTS keep very quiet. Benzols have declined still further, and are far from steady even at present rates—90-per-cent. 10*l.*, and 50-per-cent. 9*l.* *d.*

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—Very quiet, with prices ruling lower. Beckton, 10*l.* 5*s.*; Beckton terms, 10*l.*; London, 10*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; Leith and Hull, 10*l.*

SOUTH DURHAM SALT.—Quiet, but steadily maintained at 11s. per ton, f.o.b. Tees.

BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA remain unobliged, and without any improvement in tone. Home manufacturers for English and Scotch deliveries stand, respectively, at 3*l.* *d.* and 2*l.* *d.* per lb., less 4 per cent. Glasgow. Export prices 4*l.* per lb. lower, f.o.b. Glasgow.

ZINC SALTS.—In fair request, with values steady. Sulphate crystals, 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 7*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton; chloride-of-zinc solution, 100° Tw., 6*l.* 15*s.* to 7*l.* per ton; chloride of zinc, pure cake, 11*l.* to 1*l.* 1*d.*

MAGNESIUM SALTS continue to move well. Sulphate, 65*s.* to 67*s.* 6*d.* per ton, in bags, free on rails; chloride of magnesium, 57*s.* 6*d.* to 60*s.* per ton; carbonate of magnesia, 39*s.* to 41*s.* per cwt.; calcined magnesia, 10*l.* to 1*s.* per lb.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, April 17.

CASTOR OIL.—Good seconds Calcutta is again dearer at 4*l.* *d.* per lb. The *Senator* just arrived only brings 202 cases to a very bare market. First pressure French continues to manifest an easier tendency, and 3*l.* *d.* to 3*l.* 6*d.* per lb. may be taken as the value from the quay.

ACACIA SORTS.—The business passing has not been great in volume, but has been marked by every firmness on the part of holders, who seem indisposed to take the low prices lately accepted by some importers. Stocks on this market are not large, and the value of hard amber to good soft sorts may be said to range from 55*s.* to 70*s.* per cwt., according to grade.

BEESWAX.—Twelve packages good grey to yellow Chilian found buyers at 7*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., and one case fine yellow sold at 7*l.* 15*s.* per cwt.

COPAIBA.—One barrel of cloudy Maranham at auction brought forth spirited competition, and the package finally changed hands at 2*s.* 3*l.* per lb. Three barrels Para at the same auction were held for 2*s.* 3*l.*

ACID, CITRIC.—One ton fine crystals at auction was held for 1*s.* 5*d.* per lb.

GINGER, AFRICAN.—There is no change in spot value, but to arrive and in transit 29s. to 29s. 6*d.* per cwt. has been paid for 55 tons, and 30s. is now the price asked.

CANARY-SEED.—The amount of business passing is only small, and 42 bags are reported sold at 33*s.* per quarter.

LINSEED OIL has experienced a sharp advance during the week, and Liverpool makes in export casks are now held for 28s. 6*d.* per cwt.

TURPS is somewhat steadier, and for prompt delivery 28s. per cwt. is now the price.

LINSEED.—A strong upward movement has taken place in this in consequence of the bad reports from Calcutta on the coming crop. River Plate seed has advanced to 48*s.* per quarter.

KOLA.—For fair average quality 2*l.* *d.* to 3*l.* per lb. is being quoted by importers.

HONEY.—Californian is firmly held at prices ranging from 44*s.* to 52*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., according to quality. Chilian is unchanged in value, and holders show little or no disposition to encourage buyers by reducing prices.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, April 16.

Our drug-market in general is quiet, and shows very few alterations of prices since last week.

AGAR-AGAR is quiet at 390m. spot and 330m. per 100 kilos. for forward delivery.

ALOES, CAPE, is unchanged but firm at 56m. per 100 kilos.

BALSAM, PERU, continues firm at 12m. per kilo.

CAMPHOR, REFINED, shows a firmer tendency, holders now asking 460m. per 100 kilos.

CONDURANGO is steady at 90m. per 100 kilos.

CUMIN-SEED is tending firmer; to-day's quotation is 65m. per 100 kilos.

CEVADILLA-SEED is unchanged at 85m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT OF RYE is quiet, and shows only little business at 415m. per 100 kilos. for Russian.

IPECACUANHA is unchanged at 28m. for Rio and 15*l.* *d.* per 100 kilos. for Cartagena.

MENTHOL is also unchanged at 27*l.* *d.* per kilo.

SENEGA is a little easier at 360m. per 100 kilos.

SUGAR OF MILK is quoted 90m. per 100 kilos.

STAR-ANISE is very quiet at 125m. per 100 kilos.

WAX, JAPANESE, is firm at 62m. per 100 kilos.

COD-LIVER OIL is quiet, non-congealing being quoted 68m. to 65m. per barrel.

LINSEED OIL is rapidly advancing; spot stuff is very scarce with a strong demand.

CASTOR OIL for spot delivery is also scarce; first pressing, in barrels, is quoted 63m., and May delivery 59m. per 100 kilos.

PEPPERMINT OIL is firmer; HGH is 6m. per lb., and Japanese is quoted 7*l.* *d.* per kilo.

American Drug Market.

New York, April 9.

The market has a tame appearance and there is a total absence of important developments.

OPIUM continues dull and quotations are unchanged, at \$3.17*l.* for cases.

ASAFETIDA is in better supply as far as the cheaper grades are concerned and quotations are easier, varying from 30c. to 40c. according to quality.

PEPPERMINT OIL is firmer and quotations generally show an advance, though small quantities may still be bought at old figures. Western is offered at \$1.15 to \$1.25.

COCA-LEAVES are firmer owing to advices from primary sources reporting a bare market. Truxillo are higher, at 24c. Huanoco are held at 32c.

GOLDEN-SEAL has declined to 51c. per lb.

CUBEB.—Demand has fallen off and quotations are easier at 12*l.* *d.* to 13*l.* per lb.

QUININE is moving more freely, but quotations remain at 32c. to 34c. for German and domestic, with Java offering at 31c. per oz.

Japanese Drug and Chemical Market.

Yokohama, March 22.

The drug-trade remains dull and there are few important market changes since my last report.

In export articles dry ginger is firmly held at 13 yen to 12.80 yen, a fair business having been done for Indian account at these prices. Menthol is quoted 7 yen to 7.10 yen, according to holders, and business is at a standstill, while for oil of peppermint 2 yen to 2.10 yen is quoted, without any important transactions. Galls are quiet; holders quote 28 yen to 29 yen per picul, buyers bid 25 yen, and in consequence no business has transpired. The stock is estimated at 300 piculs in Yokohama, and last season's crop is said to have been some 60,000 piculs. Refined camphor,

in 1-oz. tablets, is selling well at 1-09 yen to 1-05 yen, according to quantity. Iodine is unchanged, owing probably to small supply and better demand here. Present quotations are, for potassium iodide 3-65 yen to 3-75 yen, crude iodine is quoted 3-50 to 3-55 yen, and resublimed 5-25 yen, while for iodoform 5-70 yen to 5-75 yen is asked. Bleaching powder is held at 5-90 yen to 6 yen per 100-lb. cases. Copper-sulphate is quoted 15-25 yen per picul-case. Mercurials are dearer now owing to advance in price of quicksilver.

In import articles there are some cheap offerings of certain articles owing to the failure of an important foreign firm. Durango is cheaper, at 50 sen per lb., but for forward arrivals a good business has been done at 40 to 35 sen per lb.; a rather large quantity, some 8,000 lbs., is expected. Quinine is dearer now; present quotation is 70 sen for sulphate and 95 sen for hydrochloride. Java sulphate is quoted a few sen below.

Santonin has advanced considerably to 8-75 yen, with very few sellers thereat. Sugar-of-milk has declined again, with sellers at 23-50 yen per cwt. Carbolic acid is firmly held at 46 sen per lb., with sellers at 45 sen for forward shipment. Some 500 1-cwt. drums changed hands at a shade below this figure a week ago. This is said to be a stock of a Japanese merchant who failed last December. In the meantime demand is not brisk. Formaldehyde is selling very briskly at from 38 sen to 42 sen per lb. in demijohns. All stock is said to have been concentrated in the hands of one holder. Morphine is very dull, with buyers at 41 yen per lb., holders offering at 45 yen per lb.

In heavy chemicals chlorate of potash is held at 17-50 yen. There was a fair business at 17 yen per cwt., and holders now quote 17-50 yen per cwt. for 10-ton lots. Soda-ash is firm at 4-60 yen per picul, while for caustic soda 7-25 yen is generally quoted. Bicarbonate of soda is lifeless, at 3-85 yen per cwt. for B. M. & Co., and 15 sen less for American. Rosin is booming on account of scarcity of stock. Spot is quoted at 6-50 yen per picul, while for arrival 4-50 yen to 4-25 yen is generally asked.

London Markets.

ACETANILIDE seems to be firmer than what it was, inasmuch as 9d. per lb. and upwards is the lowest figure for ton-lots.

ALOES.—Socotrine in kegs has been in demand for export to the United States, and a parcel of about 60 kegs has been shipped. Three parcels, consisting of 26 cases Zanzibar aloes in skins, will be offered next week.

ANISE, STAR.—Under date of March 15 a report from Hong-Kong quotes 61s. c. and f., without any important business.

ARROWROOT.—At auction on Wednesday fine St. Vincents sold at 3d. to 3½d. per lb., ordinary to good being bought in at 1½d. to 2½d. per lb.

ASAFETIDA.—The recent arrivals to be offered next week are said to include some very fine quality, for which there is likely to be good competition.

BENZOIN.—Arrivals of both Sumatra and Palembang have been fairly free of late, so that there will be a good assortment on show next week. Meanwhile there has been a fair demand for the cheaper grades of Sumatra at from 6d. up to 9d. per cwt., according to quality.

CAMPHOR.—A report from Hong-Kong, dated March 15, states that monopoly camphor, "B" quality, has lately been sold at 89s; 40 piculs Kwangsi were also sold at about 168s., and further lots have not yet arrived. The exports from Canton and Hong-Kong to the Continent from January 1 to March 15 have been:—

	1901	1900	1899	1898
Boxes	...	8	5,048	3,194

English refined has been in more demand this week at the quoted rates of 2s. 4½d. for small wholesale quantities, and 2s. 4d. for half-ton or ton lots.

CANELLA ALBA.—A new arrival of bold quill is offered at 52s. 6d. per cwt.

CUBEBS.—There has been some demand for the United States this week; for fair natural 50s. per cwt. is quoted.

CINCHONA.—At auction on Tuesday there was a good demand, and the offerings were cleared at or after the sale at somewhat firmer prices. The average unit obtained for quinine-bark was 1½d. (fully equal to that of the last London sale), the unit for bark rich in cinchonidine being 2d. The Java shipments of bark for the first half of the month amount to 450,000 Amsterdam lbs., or about an average.

The following table shows the approximate quantities of bark purchased by the principal buyers:—

	Lbs.
Mannheim and Amsterdam factories	83,403
Imperial factory	57,280
American factory	51,250
Frankfort-on-Main and Stuttgart factories	34,625
Messrs. Howards & Sons	30,821
Brunswick factory	29,051
Paris factory	6,252
Druggists, &c.	35,650

Total quantity sold	328,332
Bought in or withdrawn	67,139
Total quantity offered	395,471

The quantities of bark offered and sold were as follows:—

	Packages offered.	Packages sold.
East Indian cinchona	1,258	1,018
Cuprea cinchona	344	344
Calisaya cinchona	191	191
African cinchona	122	122
Java cinchona	83	83
Ceylon cinchona	51	51

2,049 1,809

The prices paid were as follows:—

AFRICAN.—Fair quill, 6½d. to 7d.; and broken quill and chips, 3½d. per lb.

CEYLON.—Succirubra, stem chips and shavings, 3½d. to 4½d.; renewed ditto, 3½d.; and root, 3½d. to 4½d.

JAVA.—Ledgeriana, stem chips, 10d.; branch ditto, 5½d.; and dusty red root, 4½d.

SOUTH AMERICAN.—Bolivian cultivated Calisaya quill, ordinary small, 5½d.; good, 8½d. to 8½d., up to 10½d. for rich; flat, 1s. 1d. per lb. Cuprea, 1½d. to 3d.

EAST INDIAN.—Ledgeriana, original stem chips, 5½d. to 7½d.; branch ditto, 5½d.; natural hybrid chips, 4½d. to 5d.; branch ditto, 3½d. *Officinalis*, ordinary to good stem chips, 3½d. to 7½d.; renewed ditto, 4½d. to 9½d.; branch, 3½d. to 5½d.; root, 4d. to 8½d.; fair quill, part broken, 8½d. to 10½d.; and renewed quill, 10½d. to 1s. 3½d. per lb. Succirubra, stem chips and shavings, 3½d. to 4½d.; renewed, 3d. to 5½d.; root, 3½d.; and branch, 3½d. per lb.

The exports from Ceylon for the week ending March 25 were 10,481 lbs., and from January 1 to March 25 they have been—

	1901	1900	1899
Lbs.	119,356	115,799	150,080

ERGOT.—Very quiet. There are sellers of Russian at 2s. 3d. per lb. spot, and c.i.f. offers at from 1s. 11d. to 2s.

GAMBOGE.—An arrival of 10 cases, partly fine lump, has been received from Singapore, and will probably be offered next week.

GALLS.—Slow of sale; blue Persian have been sold at 55s. per cwt. spot, but prices for green and white are nominal at 50s. and 45s. respectively.

GOLDEN SEAL is offered in one direction at 2s., c.i.f., which is cheaper. There is no demand here, however, at the moment.

GUM, ARABIC.—Small sales of pale selected so-called insoluble gum have been made at 23s. 6d., worked at 19s., and unworked sorts at 16s. 6d. to 17s. 6d. per cwt.

GUM, TRAGACANTH.—All grades are quiet this week, and prices of the lower qualities of Persian have considerably declined owing to fresh arrivals and little demand. Firsts are quoted 15½. 10s. to 16½. 10s. per cwt.

HELLEBORE-ROOT.—White is quoted 17s. 6d. per cwt., c. and f., gross for net.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—The arrivals on the Trieste market during March amounted to 652 cwt., and the sales to 990 cwt. Stocks there are now smaller than they have been at the same period of any during the past five years. The new crop is approaching, and owners are therefore more inclined to clear their old stocks. Open and closed flowers are very scarce, the bulk of the stock being composed of the various qualities of half-closed goods. Owners have been making efforts to secure better prices, especially for open flowers, but they have only succeeded in maintaining an advance for a little time. The new crop has been held back by the long duration of the winter, and it is expected that the first new arrivals will come in about a fortnight later.

than usual. It is also possible that the severe cold has done some damage to the growth of the plants. For closed flowers 80s. to 115s. is quoted, half-closed 47s. to 75s., and open 44s. 6d. to 46s. per cwt., c. and f.

IPECACUANHA.—There is no business to report in either description, orders being held over until next week. A direct shipment of 40 packages of Cartagena root has been received this week, and although the usual fortnightly steamer has arrived from Brazil she brings no ipecacuanha.

JALAP.—Importers quote 7d. per lb., c.i.f. Some 400 bales are reported to have been taken off the New York market by consumers.

LIME-JUICE.—For good raw West Indian 1s. 1d. per gal. is now asked.

MORPHINE has been in better demand at the unchanged rate of 4s. 11d. per oz. for contracts.

MUSK.—Business has been done in old-fashioned Pile 3 at 30s. to 32s. 6d. per oz.; for thin skin blue Pile 1, 80s. is wanted.

MYRRH.—A Trieste report, dated April 13, states that, owing to the absence of fresh supplies, the position remains firm, pale selected being quoted 130s.; pale sifted sorts, 80s.; and good natural, 66s. per cwt., c. and f.

OIL, ANISE, STAR.—A report from Hong-Kong, dated March 15, gives the stock at 300 piculs, with a quiet market at 5s. 6d., c. and f.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on April 13 that the fishing in the Lofoten district is now at an end, except as regards some of the less important places. The fishing at Finmarken will, however, commence next week. The market is extremely dull, and new non-congealing Lofoten cod-liver oil can hardly be quoted above 60s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 3,060 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels, against 2,354 barrels at the same time last year. In London there is practically no business doing, and the market is lower again, agents quoting from 62s. to 63s. per barrel, c.i.f.

OIL, LEMON.—It is the opinion among a few holders here that the Sicilian market has touched bottom, as stocks in Messina are said to have been slowly but steadily diminishing until they are now exceptionally light. The recent fall in values was unlooked for, and is principally due to the fact that large buyers have apparently taken very little interest in the article, and are not in the market for quantity. Should consumers show any inclination to buy, however, now that the season for consumption is approaching, a higher market may develop. Meanwhile oil for prompt shipment is quoted at 4s. per lb., c.i.f., and forward delivery 4s. 3d.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—Quotations in the United States are still advancing, one importer quoting pure so-called "Wayne County" oil in tins and cases at 5s. 3d., c.i.f., but sales have been made on c.i.f. terms at slightly under this figure. Reports from the other side intimate that the low prices hitherto ruling having greatly restricted cultivation. Business has also been done in American H.G.H. at 6s., and 6s. 3d. is now asked by some; to arrive 5s. 9d., c.i.f., is wanted. Japanese dementholised has been sold at 3s. 9d. spot for Kobayashi, and for arrival 3s. 2d. to 3s. 3d., c.i.f., is now quoted; 40 per cent. is offered at 6s. 3d. spot. The tendency of Japanese oils is inclined to be firmer, if anything, in view of the advance in American.

OPIUM.—There has been an active demand this week at dearest rates, especially for druggists' qualities; fine druggists' is now worth 9s. 6d. per lb. Several holders are reported to have withdrawn their stocks from the market. The advance on the Smyrna market is responsible for the activity on the London market.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 13.—Absolute quietness has reigned during the past week, and no sales have taken place. The market here is strong, and prices asked to-day for druggists' are 8s. 7d. to 8s. 9d. per lb., f.o.b. Should rain not fall in the course of a few days we shall see, without doubt, a sharp upward turn.

SMYRNA, April 5.—The sales this week amount to 21 cases, mostly for American account. Rain is much wanted in the interior, and if it does not come soon the spring-sown plants will suffer considerable damage. The present prices are likely to be maintained until the approach of the harvest, the extent of which will, of course, decide the future position of the drug. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 3,772 cases, against 2,529 at the corresponding period of last year.

PETROLATUM.—There is a seller of fine pale yellow American at 17s. per cwt., spot, in 5 or 10 barrel lots.

QUININE is slightly firmer in second hands, but still very quiet. There has been more inquiry since the result of the London bark-sale was made known, and a little business has been done for August delivery at 1s. 4d. per oz., and October at 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; spot is quoted 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. The s.s. *Duke of Devonshire* has arrived with 150 cases quinine from Batavia.

RHUBARB.—A parcel of 11 cases fine Shensi root with good pinky break has arrived, and will probably be offered next week.

SARSAPARILLA.—The arrivals this week include 20 bales of Lima-Jamaica, and 30 serons Honduras. There are 40 bales of grey Jamaica on the water.

SEEDS.—The stocks of Morocco *Cumin* are exhausted, but Malta is still being offered cheaply at 35s. to 37s. per cwt. Morocco *Coriander* is firmer at 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. per cwt. *Canary* slow, and rather easier for the cheaper qualities; some *Barbary* has been sold at 33s. per quarter. *Linseed* firmer; fine Morocco has sold at 60s. per quarter. *Fenugreek* steady at 6s. 6d. per cwt.

SENEGA.—There has been a fair business this week on the spot, and 1s. 7d. per lb. net has been paid for a ton lot. Another holder is quoting 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., and for arrival there is a seller at 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., c.i.f.

SHELLAC continues extremely quiet, small consumption orders being filled on the spot at unchanged rates. For forward delivery May has been sold at 60s., and September 62s. per cwt. At the public auction on Tuesday 284 cases were offered, of which 130 cases second orange sold at a decline of about 1s., fine palish blocky selling at 60s. to 63s., fair red flat free, 57s., and common red livery in block, 53s. per cwt.

SPICES.—There has been more activity in the speculative markets, but general trade is still slow. The auctions on Wednesday consisted chiefly of West India produce, which sold well. Cochin *Ginger* was firm; bold and medium cut sold at 80s. per cwt., medium and small at 57s. 6d., and cuttings at 32s.; medium and small native cut was bought in at 50s. to 53s., and good washed rough, new crop, at 42s. per cwt.; sales of fair washed rough have been made privately at 37s. 6d. per cwt. There was a large supply of Jamaica, but prices being low compared with Cochin speculators competed with the trade, and the whole found buyers at an advance of about 2s. per cwt.; common to ordinary sold at 38s. 6d. to 44s. per cwt., fair washed at 45s. to 50s., good to fine at 53s. 6d. to 64s. per cwt. Fine bright picked Penang *Cloves* sold at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and dark at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Zanzibar are barely steady at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. for March-May delivery. Japan *Chillies* were bought in at 48s. to 50s. per cwt. for good red. Fine East India sold at 51s., and dark at 40s. per cwt. *Capsiums* sold at 27s. per cwt. for bright red cherries, long red Egyptian being bought in at 60s. per cwt. *Pimento* easy; ordinary greyish sold at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. Wild *Cassia-buds* were bought in at 25s. per cwt. *Pepper* is dearer, with a good speculative demand. Malabar was bought in at 6d., and Penang at the same price; greyish Alleppy partly sold at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Singapore is now worth 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on the spot, and there are buyers of March-May shipment at 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. White has been in more request, and is also dearer; Penang was bought in at 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb., but sales have been made privately at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Singapore has been sold at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. for distant shipment.

TAMARINDS.—At the spice-auctions 178 barrels Antigua offered, of which 15 barrels sold at 12s. 6d. per cwt.

THYMOL.—Lower prices are now quoted for June-July shipment, one maker being a seller at 10s. 6d. to 11s. per lb., c.i.f.

WAX, JAPANESE, sells slowly on the spot at 32s. 6d. to 33s. per cwt. For arrival 31s., c.i.f., is the nearest value.

Bristol Booming.

Included in the cargo of the *Port Royal* from Kingston, Jamaica, which arrived at Bristol on April 5, were 713 barrels ginger, 229 packages honey, 13 puncheons lime-juice, 12 barrels wax, 1,170 bags pimento, and 513 bundles pimento-sticks. The *Port Royal* is one of the subsidised vessels of the Elder Dempster line specially intended for the development of trade between Jamaica and this country, and the bulk of her cargo consisted of fruit.

Produce Notes.

CINCHONA AND CARDAMOMS.

Writing to the *Madras Mail*, a planter on the Annamalai Hills, Coimbatore district, India, says that a large amount of Ledgeriana cinchona will be planted this year, the very free, deep soil, with its splendid drainage, appearing to suit to perfection. Some neighbours of his are giving Succirubra and Hybrid a trial, thinking that cinchonidine will pay. The planter in question, however, believes in good-class Ledgeriana, and if it grows as well as it promises, he thinks there will be no difficulty on the part of the Indian planter holding his own against the Java average of 5*1*/₂ per cent. quinine sulphate, or even the Java Government average of 7*1*/₂ per cent. As regards cardamoms, about 1,000 acres have been opened up to date in the Coimbatore district. Mysore seed has been tried, but not always with success.

EAST INDIAN DRUGS.

At a recent drug-auction five bales of jambul-seeds from India were offered, but no bid was made for them. This drug is apparently produced by *Eugenia Jambolana*, a myrtaceous tree, usually of considerable size, found in India and Ceylon, and distributed throughout the Malay Archipelago to Australia. The cotyledons are thick and more or less united or distinct. The fruit is subacid and edible, and is improved under cultivation. Of late years the seeds have been recommended as a remedy in diabetes, and the dried seeds, in combination with those of *Mangifera indica*, are administered with good effect as a powder in cases of diarrhoea and dysentery; they are also stated to be employed as an antidote to nux-vomica poisoning, the dose being 160 gr. in the form of a powder. Dymock, in "Pharmacographia Indica," gives the information that a vinegar is prepared from the juice of the ripe fruit which forms an agreeable stomachic and carminative, and is also used as a diuretic. The bark is astringent, and is employed either alone or in combination with other drugs in gargles and washes.

Another East Indian drug offered at the same auction was three bales of hydrocotyle herb (*Hydrocotyle asiatica*), which we briefly noted at the time. The plant is a prostrate herb found in tropical and sub-tropical regions, occurring in India to an altitude of 2,000 feet in the Himalayas, and distributed throughout the Peninsula to Ceylon. It was known to Sanskrit writers of very remote times, being regarded as alterative, tonic, and useful in diseases of the skin. Boileau made its uses known in 1852 in the treatment of leprosy, and later, in 1885, Hunter experimented with it in Madras for the same disease, with sufficiently satisfactory results to bring about its admission to the Indian Pharmacopœia. In preparing the plant for use the leaves are stripped from the petioles, and are air-dried in the shade and ground to a powder, as it appears that if dried in the sun or by artificial methods they lose a great part of their medicinal properties owing to volatilisation of the oil which is their active principle. Another representative of this genus—viz., *H. Centella*, a native of South Africa—has astringent properties, the roots and stems being employed by colonists in decoction against violent diarrhoea. It is also said to be of great service in the treatment of chronic dysentery.

WILD VANILLA.

In an interesting article in last March number of *Chambers's Journal* Mr. Rowland W. Cater relates his experiences and adventures while gathering vanilla in Central America. The author, while staying at San José, casually fell in with a native trader, and together they undertook an expedition into the interior of Costa Rica with the object of collecting wild vanilla and other forest products. Port Limon was the starting-place, whence train was taken to Jimenez, a small settlement on the branch-line to Carrillo. Here the travellers alighted and struck into the bush, the passage through which was comparatively easy. On the second day out a wild vanilla vine was discovered hanging from a huge *zapotillo* tree, from which twenty-two pods were obtained, and by sunset that day the travellers had found nearly 250 pods, or about 12 lbs., and that within a distance of little more than six miles.

Mr. Cater gives a description of the wild vanilla vine (*Vanilla sylvestris*), which he says often reaches over 30 feet

in height, and is usually about the thickness of one's little finger. The vine is round, knotted at intervals, and covered with dark-green spear-shaped leaves. It throws out a number of thin arms or aerial roots as it rises, which, attaching themselves to neighbouring trees, appear to derive therefrom such nutriment that the vines are little dependent on the soil. Occasionally the wild vines completely cover the branches of the tree, and, running from it into adjacent ones, they will hang in huge festoons and arches so thick that they seriously impede one's progress in the bush. The vines blossom profusely—usually in the spring—the strange and delicate flowers, with their long, straggling, and pale-yellow petals, springing from the angles where the leaves branch off. After a few days' existence the flowers wither and fall; and as their chance of fertilisation through any of the outside agencies on which they depend is a brief one, and precarious at best, very few of them are succeeded by fruit. This takes the form of a large pod, and although the pods attain their full growth within fifty days from the fall of the petals, they take fully seven months to ripen.

The pods vary from 5 to 12 inches in length, and are about an inch across. In shape they resemble a knife-sheath; hence the word vanilla, which is a corruption of the Spanish word *vainilla*—a small scabbard. Each pod contains a quantity of small black granules, surrounded by a balsamic pulp whose peculiar combination of oil and acid is supposed to impart to the pods the delicious flavour and powerful aroma they possess. Altogether the travellers were in the bush eight days, and as provisions were giving out they hastened with their plunder to Tortugero, where Mr. Cater sold his portion to his companion at the current price in the settlement, and having paid his share of the expenses of the trip, he came out financially so far to the good that he was prepared there and then to set out on a similar expedition had the opportunity offered. Mr. Cater winds up with a detailed description of the systematic cultivation and curing of vanilla in Central America (*Vanilla planifolia*), about which so much has been written in recent years by consuls and others. It is a fact not generally known, however, that Mexico produces the finest vanilla in the world, and that practically the whole of it is consumed in the United States.

Coming Events.

Monday, April 22.

Wolverhampton and District Chemists' Association. "The Desmids of Sutton Park," illustrated by photo-micrographs, by Mr. L. J. Reade.

Tuesday, April 23.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 8 p.m. Evening meeting. Mr. E. M. Holmes will contribute a paper on "Recent Additions to the Museum."

Wednesday, April 24.

Meeting of chemists resident in Hants, part of Wilts, Dorset, and Isle of Wight, at the Royal Hotel, Aboe Bar, Southampton, at 6 p.m. Further information can be had of Mr. H. Wilson, 146 High Street, Southampton.

Public and Poor-law Dispensers' Association, St. Bride's Institute, Ludgate Circus, E.C., at 8 p.m. Mr. T. S. Goodall on "Drug grinding."

Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 p.m. Mr. A. Siemens on "Patent-law Reform."

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (North British Branch), 36 York Place, Edinburgh. Evening meeting at 8.30 p.m. Mr. A. R. Bennett, "Commercial Ginger, with Suggestions for a Pharmacopœial Standard," and Mr. W. Lyon on the "Pharmacy of Chloroetone."

Thursday, April 25.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, W., at 9 p.m., Dr. Lapworth on "Acids and Bases."

Midland Pharmaceutical Association, Birmingham. Annual meeting and dinner announced for this date is postponed.

Barnsley and District Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, Barnsley, at 7.30 p.m. General meeting.

Meeting of chemists of Notts, Leicester, and Derby, at Nottingham, to discuss the new Bill.

Friday, April 26.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 2 p.m. "Colour in the Amphibia," by Dr. Hans Gadow.